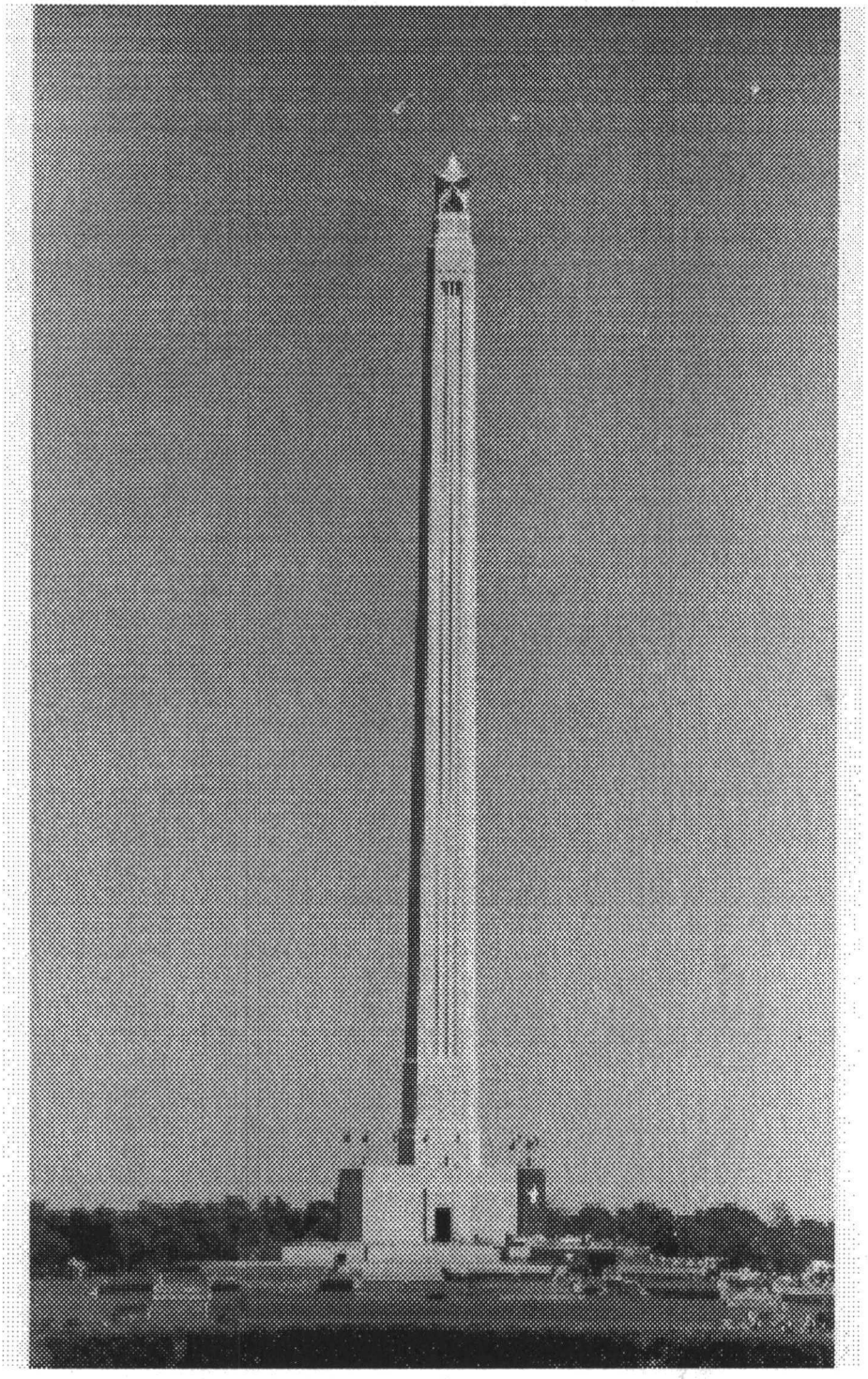

San Jacinto
The Battle - The Soldiers - The Monument
As Described In The Pages of Texas Newspapers 1887-1953

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SAN JACINTO

This collection contains newspaper accounts of the Battle of San Jacinto, the building of the San Jacinto Monument, The San Jacinto Centennial, and later San Jacinto Day Celebrations from the pages of The Houston Chronicle, The Houston Post, The Houston Press, The Beaumont Enterprise, and The Dallas Morning News; the articles were written from 1887 - 1953. Each generation must redefine for itself it's vision of the future, and the value the generation of the 1990s places on it's heritage can affect it's vision of the future. This work was undertaken by the Sam Houston Chapter in an effort to participate in the creation of that vision. Among other things, these articles reveal how Texans of an earlier time viewed themselves, their State, and their future; the articles also contain some interesting and little known facts about the Battle of San Jacinto, Santa Anna, and the Texians.

B. Rice Aston
President, Sam Houston Chapter
Sons of the Republic of Texas
April 2, 1993.

Acknowledgments

The Houston Public Library is the source of many of the newspaper articles compiled here; other sources include newspaper clippings collected by the undersigned and friends of the Sam Houston Chapter, Sons of the Republic of Texas. Many of the articles here are available on microfiche, however, microfiche, while satisfactory for reading, is not satisfactory for reproduction, and the readability of this collection makes it unique. The assistance of Alan O. Aston in compiling and editing this work is gratefully acknowledged.

B. Rice Aston
June 15, 1993

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THE FIRST ANIVERSARY BALL OF THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO. Apr. 1887

Great events in the history of nations have always been celebrated with song and dance. Even in Holy Writ we find Miriam playing upon the timbrel, and all the maidens dancing in unison to commemorate the freedom of the Israelites from Egyptian thraldom. The Greeks and Romans gave expression to their rejoicings over victory by festivities and games of various kinds.

The battle of San Jacinto, on the 21st of April, 1836, by which the independence of Texas was established, though fortunately not attended by the carnage usual in great battles, was one of the grandest events in the history of nations, and is classed by historians among the decisive battles of the world, for it was followed by the creation of a new nation on the ruins of a declining civilization. "Song nor story ever told of field more glorious than San Jacinto's, in heroic actions and far reaching blessings to our country."

So, following the impulses common to humanity, as the 21st of April, 1837, drew near, the patriotic citizens of Texas, with the memory of San Jacinto still fresh in their minds, and appreciating the advantages resulting from it, resolved that the event should be celebrated at the Capital of the Republic, which this victory had made possible, and which had been most appropriately named for him who wore the laurel. The city of Houston was at that time a mere name, or at best a camp in the woods. White tents and temporary structures of clapboards and pine poles were scattered here and there near the banks of the bayou; the substantial log house of the pioneer was rare, or altogether wanting, it being the intention of builders soon to replace what the needs of the hour had demanded, with buildings fitted to adorn the capital of a great republic.

The site of the Capitol had been selected where now stand the fine hotel bearing its name, but the materials for its construction had not yet arrived from Maine. There was, however, a large two-story building about half finished on the spot now occupied by T. W. House's bank. It was the property of the firm of Kelsey & Hubbard, and, having been tendered for the free use of the public on this occasion, men worked night and day that it might at least have floor, walls and roof, which were indeed the chief essentials of a dancing hall. As there was neither time nor material at hand for ceiling, of laying the second floor, a canopy of green boughs was spread over the beams to do away with the unpleasant effect of skeleton timbers and great space between floor and pointed roof.

Chandeliers were suspended from the beams overhead, but they resembled the glittering ornament of to-day in naught save the use for which they were intended. Made of wood, with sockets to hold the sperm candles, and distributed at regular distances, each pendant comprised five or six lights, which shed a dim radiance, but alas, a liberal spattering of sperm upon the dancers beneath. The floor being twenty-five feet wide, by fifty feet in length, could easily accommodate several cotillions, and, although space was required for the large number who came from Brazoria, Columbia, San Felipe, Harrisburg, and all the adjacent country. Ladies and gentlemen came in parties on horseback, distances of fifty and sixty miles, accompanied by men servants and ladies' maids, who had in charge the elegant ball costumes for the important occasion. From Harrisburg they came in large row boats, that mode of conveyance being preferable to a horseback ride through the thick undergrowth, for at that time there was nothing more than a bridle path to guide the traveler between the two places.

General Mosely Baker, one of Houston's first citizens, was living with his wife and child, (now Mrs. Fannie Darden) in a small house built of clapboards; the house comprised one large room designed to serve as parlor, bedroom, and dining-room, and a small shed-room at the back. The floor, or rather the lack of floor in the large apartment, was concealed by a carpet, which gave an air of comfort contrasting strongly with the surroundings.

As the time for going to the ball drew near, which was as soon as convenient after dark, several persons assembled at General Baker's for the purpose of going together. These were General Houston, Frank R. Lubbock, (since Governor and now State Treasurer), and his wife, John Birdsall (soon after Attorney General), and Mary Jane Harris, (the surviving widow of Andrew Briscoe). General Houston was Mrs. Baker's escort, General Baker having gone to see that some lady friends were provided for. When this party approached the ball room, where dancing had already begun, the music, which was rendered by violin, bass viol and fife, immediately struck up "Hail to the Chief;" the dancers withdrew to each side of the hall, and the whole party, General Houston and Mrs. Baker leading, and maids bringing up the rear, marched to the upper end of the room. Having here laid aside wraps, and exchanged black slippers for white ones, for there was no dressing room, they were ready to join in the dance, which was soon resumed. A new cotillion was formed by the party who had just entered, with the addition of another couple, whose names are not preserved, and Mr. Jacob Cruger took the place of Mr. Birdsall, who did not dance. General Houston and Mrs. Baker were partners, Mrs. Lubbock and Mr. Cruger, and Mr. Lubbock and Miss Harris. Then were the solemn figures of the stately cotillion executed with care and precision, the grave balancing steps, the *dos a dos*, and others to test the nimbleness and grace of dancers.

General Houston had just returned from New Orleans, where he had been since the battle of San Jacinto for the purpose of having his wound treated. Being the President elect, he was of course the hero of the day, and his dress on this occasion was unique and somewhat striking. His ruffled shirt, scarlet cassimere waistcoat and suit of black silk velvet, corded with gold, was admirably adapted to set off his fine, tall figure; his boots, with short red tops, were laced and folded down in such a way as to reach but little above the ankles, and were finished at the heels with silver spurs. The spurs were, of course, quite a useless adornment, but they were in those days so commonly worn as to seem almost a part of the boots. The weakness of General Houston's ankle, resulting from the wound, was his reason for substituting boots for the slippers then universally worn by gentlemen for dancing.

Mrs. Baker's dress of white satin, with black lace overdress, corresponded in elegance with that of her escort, and the dresses of most of the other ladies were likewise rich and tasteful. Some wore white mull, with satin trimmings; others were dressed in white and colored satins, but naturally in so large an assembly, gathered from many different places, there was great variety in the quality of costumes. All, however, wore their dresses short, cut low in the neck, sleeves generally short, and all wore ornaments of flowers or feathers in their hair, some flowers of Mexican manufacture being particularly noticeable, on account of their beauty and rarity.

But one event occurred to mar the happiness of the evening. Whilst all were dancing merrily, the sad news arrived that the brother of the Misses Cooper, who were at that time on the floor, had been killed by Indians at some point on the Colorado river. Although the young ladies were strangers to most of those present, earnest expressions of sympathy were heard on all sides, and the pleasure of their immediate friends was of course destroyed.

At about midnight the signal for supper was given, and the dancers marched over to the hotel of Mr. Ben Fort Smith, which stood near the middle of the block now occupied by the Hutchins House. This building consisted of two very large rooms, built of pine poles, laid up like a log house, with a long shed extending the full length of the rooms. Under this shed, quite innocent of floor or carpet, the supper was spread; the tempting turkeys, venison, cakes, etc., displayed in rich profusion; the excellent coffee, and sparkling wines invited all to partake freely, and soon the witty toast and hearty laugh went round.

The *menu* card, with its enticing suggestions to pampered appetites, was not needed, nor was the costly souvenir of latter day entertainments; most truly did "good digestion wait upon appetite," and memory stored away in her cupboard more ludicrous incidents and witty sayings than could be gathered together from a score of elegant modern soirees.

Returning to the ball room, dancing was resumed with renewed zest, and continued until the energy of the musicians began to flag, and the prompter failed to call out the figures with his accustomed gusto; then the cotillion gave place to the time-honored Virginia reel, and by the time each couple had enjoyed the privilege of "going down the middle," daylight began to dawn, parting salutations were exchanged, and the throng of dancers separated, many of them never to meet again.

Ere long the memory of San Jacinto's first ball was laid away among the mementoes of the dead, which, being withdrawn from their obscurity only on each recurring aniversary, continue to retain their freshness even after fifty years have flown.

Of all the merry company who participated in that festival, only a few are known to be living at the present day. They are, ex-Governor Lubbock, Captain R. P. Boyce, Mrs. Wynns, Mrs. Mary J. Briscoe and Mrs. Fannie Darden.

APRIL 17, 1927

A Mexican's Account of San Jacinto

One of Santa Anna's Officers Left Behind a Unique Recital Of That Day's Historic Events

PEDRO DELGADO DID NOT THINK MUCH OF HIS SUPERIOR OFFICER, GENERAL ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, AND HE THOUGHT LESS OF THE TEXANS, WHOM HE CHARACTERIZED AS "DRUNKEN AND BLOODTHIRSTY VOLUNTEERS."

BY PAMELA BROWN.

was Bobby Burns, I believe, who first deplored the fact e are usually unable to behold ourselves as we appear to sual beholder. Indeed, it is not often that we have held us the mirror of some one else's mind concerning us. But ar-seeing soul, with an eye to posterity, once printed in cient Texas Almanac (1870) an account of the Battle of acinto as seen through the eyes of a Mexican officer who ipated in that far-reaching conflict.

l. Pedro Delgado was of the staff of Gen. Antonio Lopez nta Anna, commander of the Mexican Army. An accord- Col. Delgado, things were certainly not as they should be little soiree which Sam Houston conducted on the after- f the 21st of April, 1836. Col. Delgado's observations are nly naive, to say the least about them. And they are as ulous to the Texan of today as they were some ninety years . While some partisan statements in history concerning the ivil War must be taken with a grain of salt, Col. Delgado's account of the Battle of San Jacinto must be consumed with at least a ten-pound sack of the saline article.

In this same almanac is an illuminating letter from Gen. Santa Anna to his Secretary of War. And in this letter Santa Anna veers so far from the actual truth concerning the fall of the Alamo that one feels entirely justified in disregarding Col. Delgado's later accounts concerning the "atrocities" committed by the conquering Texas troops at San Jacinto.

In this letter to his Secretary of War, Santa Anna states, with bitter inaccuracy, that "twenty-one pieces of artillery used by the enemy with most perfect accuracy, the brisk and continuous fire of musketry which illumed the interior of the fortress (the Alamo), its walls and ditches, could not check our DAUNTLESS SOLDIERS, who are entitled to the consideration of the supreme Government and the gratitude of the Mexican Nation."

The letter continues:

"The fortress is now in our power . . . More than 600 corpses of the foreigners were buried in the ditches and intrenchments, and a great number who escaped the bayonet of our infantry, fell under the sabers of our cavalry. . . .

"Among the corpses are those of Bowie and Travis, who styled themselves Colonels, and also that of Crockett. . . .

"We lost seventy killed and 300 wounded, including twenty-five officers . . . but the cause for which they fell renders their loss less painful, and all of us were ready for any sacrifice to promote this fond object.

"The bearer of this takes with him one of the flags of the enemy's battalions captured today. The inspection of it will show plainly the true intention of these treacherous colonists who come from the United States of the North.

"God and liberty!

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

"Bexar, March 6th, 1836."

Santa Anna an Artistic Liar.

It will come as a great surprise to the major portion of the citizens of the Lone Star State, who have perhaps been reared in the belief that a mere handful of men gave their lives in the fall of the Alamo, to learn that really there were close to a thousand troops concealed in the fortress, with plenty of ammunition, cannon, muskets, provisions and so forth. And that the Mexicans, at a great sacrifice, which they made willingly for the cause of their country, finally evicted and slaughtered these numerous foreign troops in a glorious victory.

Delgado Could Also Stretch the Truth.

Gen. Santa Anna had as one of his chief officers the aforementioned Col. Delgado, who appears to have learned the gentle art of prevarication from his superior officer. After carefully recounting the actions of the Mexican forces for several days before the battle of San Jacinto, telling in detail of the homes looted and burned, the town of Harrisburg razed with fire, after it had been stripped of all that the troops might use, "of burning a fine warehouse on the wharf and all of the houses and barns," Col. Delgado gives us a very striking picture of the brave Santa Anna, who suffered so much for his country, when he captured the Alamo.

Just before the march was started forward on the morning of the 20th word was brought that Sam Houston and his troops were close on the heels of the Mexican army, and perhaps Santa Anna's intuitive base told him that Sam Houston was in no mood to deal charitably with Mexicans of any sort. It must have put the fear of the Lord in the General's heart, because Delgado says:

Santa Anna in a Panic.

Upon hearing the report, His Excellency leaped upon his horse and galloped at full speed for the rear, which, being crowded with men and mules, did not afford him as prompt an exit as he wished. However, knocking down some and riding over others, he overcame the obstacles, shouting at the top of his lungs: "The enemy is coming! The enemy is coming!" The excitement of the General in chief had such an effect upon the troops that every face turned pale; order could no longer be preserved, and every man thought only of flight or of finding a hiding place and gave up all idea of fighting."

A Close-Up of Santa Anna.

Delgado goes on to relate that Santa Anna then gave him charge of the stores and provisions. He also criticises his General's orders concerning the taking off of all of his (Delgado's) mules, leaving him high and dry with the provisions, which he later had to move over a mile to the new camp, and with only two mules to do it with. "The camping ground of His Excellency's selection was against all military rules," writes the harassed Colonel. "Any youngster could have done better," he adds bitterly. "The enemy could retreat if necessary over their rear and right, while our troops had no room for maneuvering." Poor Delgado! Gen. Santa Anna's troops did not need room for maneuvering; they only needed room for running!

Upon mentioning the matter of the camp ground to Gen. Castrillon, Delgado relates that the General replied: "I know it well, but I can not help it. You know that nothing avails here against the caprice, arbitrary will and ignorance of that man!" Apparently Santa Anna was not such a hero to his soldiers as he was to the home population.

The Battle of San Jacinto.

And then next day, when Sam Houston and his determined army descended upon the slumbering Mexican troops, who were enjoying their afternoon siesta, Delgado relates that "utmost confusion prevailed. General Castrillon shouted on one side, Col. Almonte gave orders on the other; some cried out to commence firing, others to lie down to avoid the grape shot. Among the latter was his excellency (Santa Anna.)

" . . . I saw our men flying in small groups, terrified, and sheltering themselves behind large trees. I endeavored to urge some of them to fight, but it was in vain—the evil was beyond remedy; they were a bewildered and panic-stricken herd."

"Remember the Alamo."

The riot continued; the Texans closed in shouting their immortal battle cry, "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" And at that His Excellency, General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, hero of the Alamo, military idol of his country, completely lost his head, or what portion of a head he had. Delgado admits the catastrophe.

"His Excellency was running about in the utmost excitement, wringing his hands and unable to give an order."

Then Delgado Skipped Out.

Colonel Delgado was a sensible man and he saw no reason for losing his hide if it could be prevented. Pausing to reconnoiter, he perceived that General Castrillon was wounded, Col. Trevino was killed and Col. Aguirre had been hit. It seemed to be a bad day for officers, so Col. Delgado decided to tarry no longer. Using his horse as a shield, he started out after the fleeing soldiers, who were exercising the better part of valor with great vim and vigor. The 'bloodthirsty usurpers," greatly to the surprise and dismay of the Colonel, were carrying on a systematized slaughter of Mexicans on the prairie. Col. Delgado writes of this with pain and horror, as if it were really something that nice soldiers did not do. He seems at this point to have utterly lost faith with the Texans and to no longer consider them even as gentlemen. He grows more bitter and denunciatory as he proceeds with his story.

Some Rude Person!

There was, states the Colonel naively, only one obstacle to their retreat, and that was the bayou. And it appeared that some ununthinking person had burned the bridge! Col. Delgado had not mounted his horse for fear of being hit by bullets, which appeared to be so numerous in these parts this afternoon, but when he approached the bayou and observed that it could not be crossed, he threw discretion to the winds, jumped upon his horse and spurred him cruelly, so that in two great leaps the animal cleared the bayou sufficiently for the Colonel to crawl out on the bank, although he left both his horse and his shoes sunk in the ooze. Other Mexican soldiers attempted to cross the bayou on foot, only to sink here and die terribly in the slimy black waters.

A Memento of the Battle.

Sixty-seven years later, as a little child, I found evidence of this terrified fleeing across these treacherous, swampy ways. The water in the bayou was low because of no recent rains, and I, with my mother and a crowd of people, was picnicking on the banks of the San Jacinto on the anniversary of the battle. There in the green and black mud, pointing tragically upward toward the warm, blue April sky, was an old Spanish bayonet. A small boy waded out into the knee-deep ooze and got it. It came away from its long resting place with a sickening, clutching sound; part of the musket clung to it a second, only to drop away before the boy returned to the bank. To such a like fate did the brave Col. Delgado surrender his horse, who was probably the better soldier of the two.

Wandering in the Woods.

For the next hour or two, according to the Colonel's statement, it looked like it was all over as far as he was concerned. He wandered around the woods, not knowing how to get home and having no way to go if he knew. He also found many of his brother officers in a like predicament. But eventually Captain Allen, one of Sam Houston's officers, got around to them and gathered them up like babes in the wood. Here they were herded in with some other prisoners, and the Colonel relates that when the Texans repeatedly asked after Santa Anna and Gen. Cos the Mexicans replied, 'Dead! Dead!" in order to be let alone. His epaulets gave him quite a bit of trouble, the Colonel continues, because they kept asking him if he were a General, to which he replied with dignity, "Me no General." However, some one finally yanked the offending things off, and he states gravely that he felt relieved when they did so, because the epaulets were causing him "a lot of worry."

"Drunken Volunteers."

Following this, many "terrible atrocities" were committed upon the Colonel and his fellow-soldiers. It will undoubtedly be another terrible blow to the citizens of Texas to learn that the troops who defeated Santa Anna at San Jacinto were a bunch of drunken volunteers who pursued the Mexicans with fierce and bloodthirsty feelings." The Colonel wonders; he is hurt to the quick by their attitude. He grieves over it through eight paragraphs of poignant suffering that rends the heart. He states magnanimously that only the humane interference of the noble Capt. Allen, who seemed to have a few shreds of honor left, prevented the "drunken volunteers" from completely annihilating the entire crew of Mexicans.

Thought They Were to Be Burned.

The prisoners were kept sitting an hour and a half in order to rest them up from their strenuous retreat, then they were marched into the wood to an immense fire. "I and several of my companions were silly enough to believe that we were to be burnt alive in retaliation for those who were burnt at the Alamo," Col. Delgado confesses gayly. However, such was not the truth. The "drunken and bloodthirsty volunteers" only wanted to warm the poor things up and let them dry their wet clothes, in order to prevent their taking colds. Col. Delgado was amazed at the sentry who stood guard over them. They were evidently armed to the teeth and ready for every emergency, for he says of them:

The Texans of San Jacinto.

"You should have seen those men, or rather phantoms converted into living armories. Some wore two, three, even four brace of pistols; a cloth bag of very respectable size filled with bullets, a powder horn, a saber, a bowie knife, besides a rifle, musket or carbine. Also each carried in one hand a lighted candle." The Colonel wonders where they got so many candles and why they kept them going all night. If to prevent the escape of their prisoners, he states with childlike frankness, such measures were unnecessary. "The fools!" says the Colonel charitably. "Where could we go in this vast country, unknown to us, intersected by large rivers and forests, where wild beasts, hunger and they themselves would destroy us?"

The Officers Were Scared.

Forgetting, apparently, the joy with which he let his epaulets be torn from his shoulders, the narrator goes on to condemn, in no uncertain terms, some of his fellow-officers who, insisted upon so far forgetting their rank as to mingle with the common soldiers because it had been rumored that from the Lieutenant up would be shot, and from the Sergeants down would be spared. "What a shame," orates Delgado, "what a shame that such contemptible beings, utterly destitute of honor, should still associate with those who have always proudly borne and gloried in their noble badges of office!" One speculates with difficulty as to just where the Colonel was at this time—with the officers or with the soldiers?

Kidding the Mexicans.

The American sense of humor caused the prisoners some fearful hours. The Texans took pains and pleasure, according to Delgado, in telling the Mexicans that there was a row going on as to whether they should shoot them all now and then notify the Government or notify the Government first and then shoot them afterward. Either way, they were to get shot, and the Colonel confesses that he was "cold as ice" until some one announced that Sam Houston, Rusk and Allen had swayed the vote to the latter decision. Only then did he draw a deep breath and get back to kicking because the officers' stores and luggage were divided between the victors, and he still had to go around barefooted, having left his shoes in the bayou with his horse, as before mentioned.

Santa Anna Is Captured.

The next day, at 2 o'clock, Santa Anna arrived. He wore "linen trousers, a blue cotton jacket, a cap and red worsted slippers." My only regret is that we haven't a snapshot of Antonio Lopez in that garb! How I would have loved it! The Texans weren't certain as to the identity of their prisoner, so they came and asked the Mexicans if Santa Anna had any teeth missing. "Some replied that they did not know," says Delgado. "But others with more candor, or perhaps less discretion, said: 'Yes, gentlemen; and you may further say to your General that the person just brought before him is President Santa Anna himself!'"

The only sentiment which Delgado expressed concerning the capture of his General in Chief is his belief that the Texas soldiers left off questioning the other prisoners and "ran to strike up an acquaintance with His Excellency." From that time on, he states, they were left alone, as Santa Anna became the center of attraction.

Texans Were in High Spirits.

In between kicks against the treatment accorded them, he pauses to wonder at the monkey shines of the victorious Texans, who trapped their mules out "with the green and red cords which our Voltigeurs and Grenadiers wore on their caps, placing them on the ears, necks or backs of the mules. One did put a pair of blinds on a mule—one on his eyes and one over his nose. They also used the epaulets of our officers on the animal's ears. How strange these men are! Many of them act and feel like the wild Comanche!"

"I will say," concludes Delgado bitterly, "to the everlasting shame of our conquerors, that they kept us starving, sleeping in the mud for days and exposed to frequent and heavy showers." Such atrocious and inhumane treatment for the men who perpetuated Goliad and burned the still warm bodies of Bowie and Crockett at the Alamo!

On the 8th of May, the prisoners wer loaded on the Yellowstone, a steamboat. Here they found Santa Anna, "the President," Senor Zavala and other dignitaries of their so-called Government." Sam Houston was aboard, on his way to New Orleans for medical treatment for his wound, received at San Jacinto.

Delgado also speculates upon what he terms a "strange incident" on board that boat, but one which, to every native Texan, will appear full of significance and beauty.

A Salute to San Jacinto.

"As the steamboat passed the battlefield of the San Jacinto, the troops on board were formed facing to the field and presented arms, the drums meanwhile beating a march! They remained in that position until they had lost sight of the field. What was their object? Poor befuddled Colonel! He had passed through one of the most dramatic events in history, and still didn't know what it was all about. All he could get out of it was mules wearing epaulets, (which he himself didn't care for any more), losing his shoes in the bayou and the fact that the Texans acted queerly when they passed the spot where they and their comrades had shed their blood for liberty.

This is by no means all of the yarn told by Col. Pedro Delgado, but it is all that concerns us. The next four or five pages are only filled up with the griefs he had to endure at the hands of the "inhumane Texans," who kept him and his fellow-prisoners at the Galveston camp without mosquito netting and let the sandcrabs eat up their clothes!

From there he moves his tale of woe to his next camping ground at Liberty, Texas. The remainder of the story is one continual ache about something, including a grand spell of indignation because the citizens of that town gave a ball in honor of the victory at San Jacinto and invited General Cos! Again, the Latin mind was unable to comprehend the American sense of humor.

At length the town of Liberty rebelled at supporting the prisoners and they were sent back home, where we haven't a doubt Delgado spent the remainder of his life writing daily letters to the local newspapers about outrageous happenings in his own home town. He appears, at a casual glance, to be that sort of citizen. But at any rate we are glad he took pen in hand about the battle of San Jacinto. It gives us one of the most peculiar angles on the battle of San Jacinto ever recorded in history.

SOLDIER AT SAN JACINTO TELLS OF FAMOUS BATTLE

San Jacinto — H. Post 4-22-28

Hitherto unpublished details of the Battle of San Jacinto, intimate glimpse into epoch-making phase of Texas history are provided in a document prepared by the late James M. Hill, a member of the commission appointed by Governor Culberson to lay off and purchase the San Jacinto Battlegrounds.

Mr. Hill, his memory still active and his recollection of the bloody battle undimmed, was 79 years old when he wrote the account.

A daughter, Lucy Hill Jones, assembled the manuscript and mailed a copy to George A. Hill, son of James M. Hill, who lives at the Brazos hotel.

The elder Hill, who worte the account, died in 1905. His detailed story of the battle follows:

Came to Texas in 1835.

"I, James M. Hill, was born in Putnam county, Ga., on the Oconee river, March 13, 1818; lived several years near Hillsborough, Jasper county, and afterwards in Columbus, Muscogee county, at the head of navigation on the Chattahoochee river.

"From Columbus, I came with my father's family to Texas in the spring of 1835; the family consisting of father, mother, three brothers besides myself, and six sisters older than myself. One brother was older than I, but was sickly, so the burden of hard work was put upon me to do, and I did it. My older brother and I planted corn, commencing on the fourth of July of the year mentioned, and we made enough corn for bread for the the family until the next crop.

"In the spring of 1836 my father's family were living in Washington county, Texas, and we were trying to improve a place near Capt. H. Chrisman's, having to split rails, break new land, make a post-oak rail fence, and build houses—such as we were compelled to live in. Thus you see we had a heavy task. My father and brother did all they could, but brother was sick most of the time so the hardest part of the work fell on me to do and I did it with a 'vim.' You see there was mother, the best mother in the world, and six sisters older than myself, and two young brothers, and I was just 18 on the thirteenth of March, 1836.

Hears of Invasion.

"A short time before this date we heard of the invasion of Santa Anna's army on Texas' soil, with 15,000 well equipped soldiers. My father decided that I should stay at home and do as much of the work, and he would go to the front and see if we were needed more there than at home. So, in a few days he was back, having reached Gonzales and heard of the fall of the Alamo, and that General Houston had ordered a retreat and also ordered Fanning to join him.

"I was ready, on my father's return, with my bullets patched and moulded by my sisters. My father started right back to join Houston, with seven besides myself: Nicholas Whitehead, Charley Williams, W. B. Scates and others. When we reached the Colorado river, at Burnam's crossing we found Houston's trail. He had crossed there and gone down the river toward Columbus. We, the nine, came to a detachment of his army just above Columbus, guarding the ford of the river. In this detachment was W. W. Hill's company, and I immediately joined it. My father proceeded down the river to report to Hontson, and I did not see him again until Houston hard ordered the next retreat to the Brazos. He then came to me and showed me his furlough and detail to tell all the families that he could see, and to send word to others to cross the Brazos, that the enemy was crossing down at "Tusky Seat" (Atascasita), crossing on the Colorado river, and to tell them that he, Houston, would keep between them and the enemy.

Action Orders Given.

"Now, the order was given for our detachment to join the main army of Houston out at the edge of timber and prairie, on the road to San Felipe. It was early in the day when we joined the main body. It was thought that there were over 2000 men there. The line of march was taken up toward San Felipe, across the Bernard. We camped there that night. Here was a trying time, I suppose, to a great many, as I then heard and afterwards learned from good authority, that the night we camped at San Felipe over 500 men left without leave from the commanding general; some with good excuse, others without any.

"The next morning our army was ordered to march up the Brazos, across Mill creek. We camped between Mill creek and the Brazos. One man died that night of quinsy. I think we camped out of the bottom one more night, and then went into the bottom and camped in there 12 days. Nothing of importance transpired in these 12 days except one of the regulars by the name of Garner, deserted and was sentenced to be shot. His grave was dug, he was placed at one end of it and a file of soldiers at the other end ready to fire, and at that moment he was reprieved, and afterwards made a good soldier at the battle.

Hostile Element Active.

During our stay in the Brazos bottom some of our soldiers became mutinous, especially after a rain which was frequent. Their guns would get wet and they would shoot them off, contrary to Gen. Houston's orders, and it was painful to hear him swear and take our Maker's name in vain. He would order them put under guard. The most of us tried to keep our guns dry and to obey orders.

"Nearly every mess had a steel mill screwed to a sapling. It was commonly called, "Armstrong's Mill," and it had two cranks. When we would grind our small quantity of corn on it we would sometimes have to grind it the second time to make it a little finer, but it was coarse at best; though by scalding it, bran and all, and putting it in a skillet with plenty of coals under it and on lid, we had a good "pone" of bread. Our butcher knife was passed through the pone, so that each could get an equal share, and we were thankful too that we could have that good a show for bread to go with our beef.

"As I have said, we had a great deal of rain during our stay on the south side of the bottom. The Brazos river was bank full and no ferry boat to cross us over. General Houston sent up to Washington, to intercept the "Yellowstone" steamboat, which had gone up after cotton during the big rise in the river. She came down and crossed our army over at "Groces Retreat." We camped at Donahue's the first night, and at this place we left our captain, W. W. Hill, sick with measles.

SAN JACINTO SAW BIRTH OF LIBERTY

Ho. Press — 11-11-1938

Battleground Has Become Shrine of Texas; State Bought Land for Park; Provides for Upkeep and Beautification

By HENRY C. FULLER
Press Staff Writer

SAN JACINTO Battleground is on the Houston Ship Channel, 20 miles east of Houston. It is the place where the Battle of San Jacinto was fought on April 21, 1836 by the Texans under comamnd of General Sam Houston and the Mexican army under General Santa Anna.

The battleground is easily reached by boat or auto and hundreds of visitors from all parts of the country visit the famous place every day.

The ground on which the battle was fought is now a state park under the supervision of a park commissioner. The Eighteenth Legislature of Texas, at its regular session in 1883, appropriated $1500 to purchase the ground and take the necessary steps to maintain and beautify it in keeping with its importance as a shrine of history.

The Twenty-fifth Legislature, at its regular session in 1897, passed a bill authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission to purchase 250 acres of land upon which the Battle of San Jacinto was fought to be used as a park. The amount of money appropriated to pay for the land was not to exceed $10,000.

Charles A. Culberson was governor when a commission was appointed to purchase the battle ground for park purposes. The commission consisted of James M. Hill of Travis County, Walter T. Burns of Harris County and S. J. Hendricks of Rusk County.

The Twenty-sixth Legislature, at its regular session in 1899, authorized the commission to purchase the adjoining homestead of Magnus T. Habermehl as an addition to the park, which gave the park a total of 350 acres.

The Twenty-seventh Legislature in 1901 appropriated $1000 for fencing and beautifying the battle ground park.

Each legislature appropriates a certain specific amount for the maintenance of the park. The last legislature appropriated $12,000 for two years maintenance.

The management of the park is under the State Board of Control and the State Park Commission. Col. Andrew Jackson Houston is ex-officio superintendent of the park and O. P. Floyd is acting superintendent.

The Battle of San Jacinto commenced at 3:30 in the afternoon. In his report to President Burnett, at Galveston, General Houston says it lasted only 18 minutes. General Houston had 783 men; Santa Anna had between 1500 and 1600 men. The battle was decisive.

The enemy's loss was 630 killed, among which was one general officer, General Castrillon, the man who had led the Mexicans in their final assault on the Alamo; four colonels, two lieutenant-colonels, five captains, 12 lieutenants. Wounded: 208, of which five were colonels, three lieutenant-colonels, seven captains, one cadet. Prisoners to the number of 730 were captured, including President-General Santa Anna, General Cos, his brother-in-law; four colonels, aides to General Santa Anna, and the colonel of the gunners' batallion.

In addition the following was captured: 500 muskets, 300 swords, 200 pistols, several hundred mules and horses and $12,000 in specie.

To the rear of the Mexican army was a small stream known as Vince's Bayou, spanned by a narrow bridge. Just before the battle started General Houston

ordered Deaf Smith, the scout and spy, to take an axe and destroy this bridge. This order was at ounce carried out, the purpose being to make the escape of the Mexican army impossible in event the Texans were victorious. It was well that this was done, for hundreds of panic stricken Mexicans fled toward the bride after the first onslaught of the Texans and were followed and killed at the place where the bridge had been located.

The defeat of the Mexicans was complete.

General Santa Anna was captured in the afternoon of the next day and his brother-in-law, General Cos, two days later.

General Houston was wounded in the battle, and, finding that he would have to have surgical treatmnet by a specialist, he at once decided to go to New Orleans for that purpose.

The command of the army was, accordingly, turned over to General Thomas J. Rusk. Mirabeau B. Lamar took the place of Rusk as secretary of war. As quickly as possible General Houston prepared a report of the battle and sent it by courier to President Burnet at Galveston and then left by sail boat for New Orleans.

It took four days for the couriers bearing the tidings of the Battle of San Jacinto to reach Galveston. It seems, from the best information, that the messenger intrusted with carrying this important information to President Burnet was Capt. R. J. Calder and with him, in the skiff he rowed, were Anson Jones, afterward president of the Republic of Texas, and Judge Benjamin C. Franklin.

The party carried no provisions. At their first stopping place they were almost famished. The story of the trip to Galveston, as told by Captain Calder several years later, says he, Jones and Franklin ate seven chickens the first night for supper.

They had extreme difficulty in obtaining food for the remainder of the trip as the news of the advance of the army of Santa Anna had caused people to abandon their homes and take their supplies with them in most cases. To make matters worse a cold rain fell almost continually on the messengers and when they reached the Bay of Galveston they were not only very hungry, but almost frozen.

They were met by Capt. William Brown in a small vessel and taken to Commodore Hawkins, who was in charge of the Texas fleet. This brief stop for refreshments angered President Burnet because he thought as he was president the messengers ought to come to him first. It is said that he even went so far as to issue orders for the arrest of the messengers, but they presently showed up at his headquarters and the news they bore was of such encouraging nature he let it pass. However, Commodore Hawkins went to Burnet and apologized for detaining the men who had brought the great news.

After his capture by the Texans, Santa Anna issued orders for Filisola and Ganoa, in command of two other divisions of the Mexican army, to withdraw as hastily as possible across the Rio Grande. He also entered into a treaty with General Houston recognizing the independence of Texas, but the Mexican Congress took the position that he had no authority to enter into any such arrangement, as that power was vested solely in Congress So the agreement made by Santa Anna was not recognized by the Mexican government. This led to the war between the United States and Mexico after annexation and cost Mexico all her territory between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean.

The results of the Battle of San Jacinto were far-reaching. Texas became a Republic, and, during the nine years that intervened between the battle and annexation to the United States, had four presidents, or rather three, as Houston served two terms, Lamar one term and Anson Jones one term.

The Battle of San Jacinto has been celebrated in song and story and by the historian and artist.

Chronicle Sunday, April 20, 1930 San Jacinto

SAN JACINTO DAY TO BE OBSERVED AT BATTLEFIELD

Monday will be the ninety-fourth anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto.

In Houston and vicinity it will be a holiday. Hundreds of persons are expected to go to San Jacinto Battleground Park on San Jacinto River for a day's outing.

Under the auspices of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, a program will be given in the afternoon at the pavilion, overlooking the landscape, where a "boy army" under Gen. Sam Houston won an overwhelming victory over the Mexican army. This victory, won in 15 minutes, changed the history of the great Southwest.

On the day following the defeat of his Mexican army, the captive Santa Anna was "induced" to issue an order to General Filisola to retire the main army.

"What is the name of this place?" he asked.

"Lynchburg," replied General Houston.

"No, San Jacinto," said John A. Wharton.

General Santa Anna dated his order, "San Jacinto, April 22, 1836."

This incident gave to postertiy the name of the Battle of San Jacinto.

The story of the battle and the incidents leading up to it will be told Monday afternoon at the park pavilion, near where it occurred, by Clarence R. Wharton, Houston attorney and Texas historian, a blood relative of the John A. Wharton of San Jacinto fame.

The program of the afternoon will begin at 2 o'clock with an hour's band concert by the Houston municipal band, directed by J. A. Gedeist.

The annual message from the Sons of the Republic of Texas will be given at 2 p.m. by Dr. E. N. Gray, president.

General Houston's report of the battle will be read by W. E. Kendall, grandson of Gen. Sidney Sherman, who commanded the left wing of the troops on April 21, 1836.

Reports of the progress of the tree planting on the Battleground Highway will be given by Mrs. H. H. Ueckert, president of the San Jacinto Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic, and J. C. McVea, chairman of the memorial tree committee of the Sons of the Republic.

As the last number on the program, the Sons and Daughters of the Republic will go to the graves of one of the San Jacinto veterans and lay a wreath. Taps will be sounded.

In one of the intervals of the program, Dr. Earl J. Shay will sing, "Come to the Bower," a popular song of 1836, said to have been sung by the soldiers as they went into battle.

Provision has been made for suitable parking space for cars just inside the gate of the larger park, across the highway to the south from the smaller park, where the pavillion is situated. Due to the size of the crowds expected to visit the park today and tomorrow, the park management has restricted the use of the smaller park to pedestrians.

The pleasure boat Nicholaus will operate today and tomorrow between the Texas Company wharf at Harrisburg and the battlefield. The boat will leave the wharf at Harrisburg at 10 a.m. each day, and arrive at the battleground at 11:25 a.m. Returning, the boat will leave at 6 p.m., and arrive at Harrisburg at 7:25 p.m.

While the pleasure boat is at San Jacinto, it will make a one-hour trip around Hog Island, at a nominal cost, to permit visitors to view the scenery along the bayous and out of the way places.

Arrangements have been made to provide passage by pleasure boats Nicholaus and Galves from Harrisburg to Galveston. A single ticket may be obtained for the entire trip. The Galvez will arrive and depart from San Jacinto about the same time as the Nicholaus.

Motor vehicles in the vicinity of the battleground will be handled by county highway police, working under Sheriff T. A. Binford.

Santa Anna's Version of San Jacinto

4-21-30

Says His Aide Tenderly Urged That He Mount a Horse and Flee When Battle Caught Him Napping

Blamed Aguirre's Thirsty Horses for Loss of Battle and Says He Hid in Thicket of Dwarf Pines While Texans Hunted for Him, Afterward Wading a Deep River and Getting Captured While "Crossing a Plain."

By Maurice Elfer.

Ninety-four years ago, on April 21, 1836, in one of the worst conflicts in the annals of war, Texas Independence became an assured fact instead of a matter of anticipation, as Santa Anna's forces were routed by an army under Sam Houston near the San Jacinto River, about eighteen miles from where the city of Houston now stands.

The battle lasted less than twenty minutes. It was a culmination of a series of supreme struggles to drive tyranny and oppression back to the land of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who was then dictator of Mexico.

And not long afterward Texas became a part of the United States, not as a territory from the public domain, but as a country annexed to another country. The far-flung Lone Star region has experienced six flags, those of France, Spain, Mexico, Republic of Texas, Confederate States and United States.

When the Alamo fell, on March 6, 1836, Santa Anna waged a war of extermination. But he did not meet Houston at once. For a month following the massacre of the Alamo Houston's army retreated, drawing the Mexicans onward and obtaining volunteers as it went along. The length of the retreat was about 250 miles.

Short and Snappy.

On April 20 Sam Houston had taken up a position on a field near Harrisburg. The Mexican army was so close that his men could see the enemy moving about. Next day between 3:30 and 4 o'clock Houston gave the order to charge, and to cries of "Remember the Alamo!" and "Remember Goliad!" the ill-clothed, ill-armed Texans swept forward.

The rout was complete. The Texan force of 783 had lost eight men and had twenty-five wounded, whereas the Mexican army of about 1,600 had 630 men killed, 208 wounded and 730 taken prisoner.

Santa Anna, the commander, was not captured until next day.

"I am Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna," he said, "and I expect to be treated as a prisoner of war."

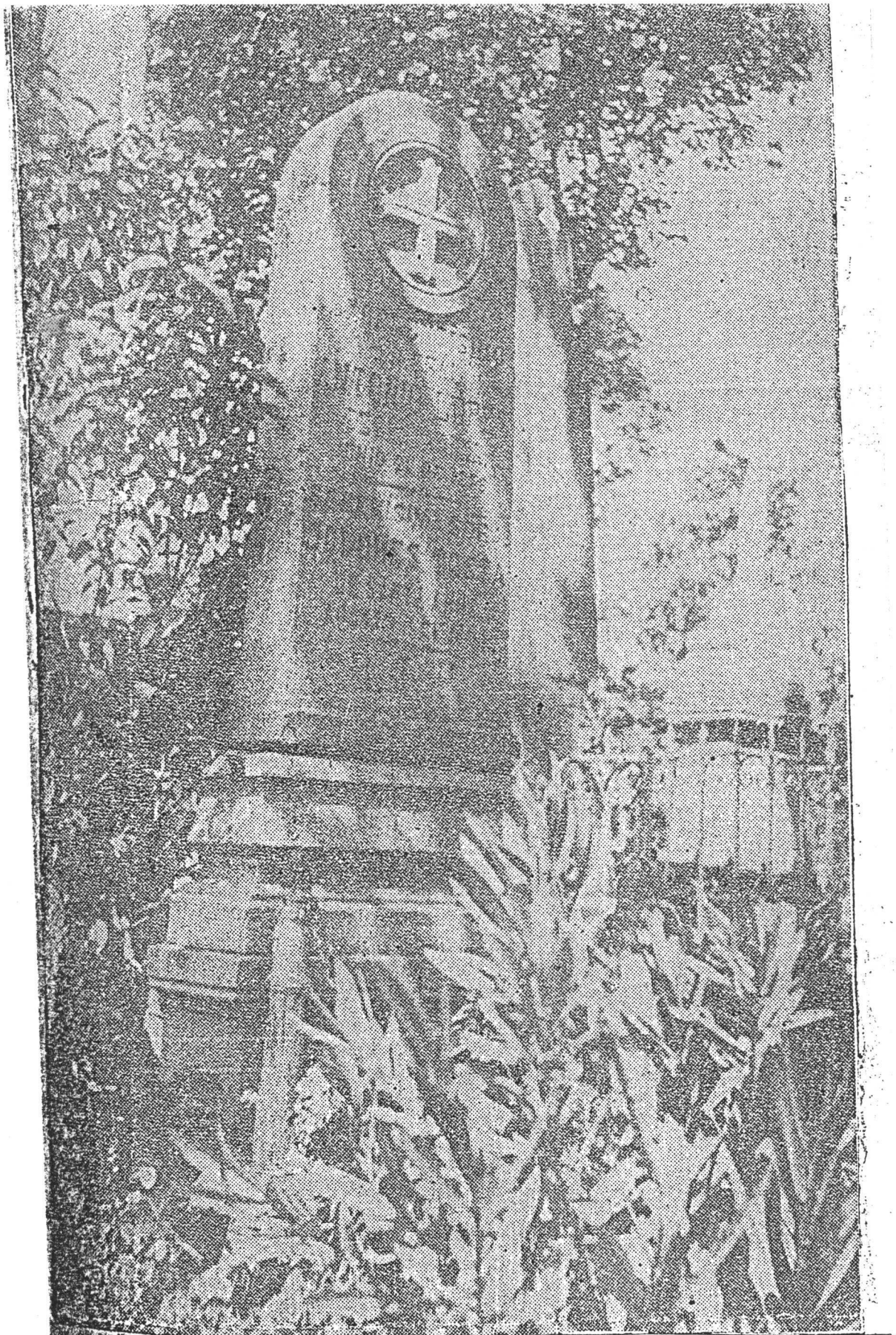
Released Later.

The Mexican General would have been executed had not his captors been magnanimous. After keeping him in captivity about a year, he was allowed to return to Mexico. Upon his release, he promised to be a friend to Texas, but he remained a bitter enemy to the Republic.

The report which the Mexican General made to his Government in connection with the Battle of San Jacinto, about a year after the battle had occurred, is one of considerable interest, having features comic, serio-comic and tragic. It casts a strange commentary upon the Mexican army of the time.

Santa Anna's report, dated March 11, 1837, to the Mexican Government after his return to Mexico from his imprisonment in Texas, follows:

"Early on the morning of the 19th I sent Captain Barragan, with some dragoons, to a point on the Lynchburg road, three leagues distant from New Washington, in order that he should watch and communicate with me, as speedily as possible, the arrival of Houston; and, on the 20th, at 8 o'clock in the morning, he informed me that Houston had just got to Lynchburg. It was with the greatest joy that all the individuals belonging to the corps, then under my immediate orders, heard the news; and they continued the march, already begun, in the best spirit. At my arrival Houston was in possession of a wood on the margin of Buffalo Bayou which at that point empties itself into San Jacinto Creek. His situation rendered it indispensable to fight and my troops manifested so much enthusiasm that I immediately began the battle. Houston answered my firing but refused to come out of the cover of the wood. I wished to draw him into a field of battle suited to my purpose and in consequence withdrew about 1,000 yards distance, to an eminence affording a favorable position, with abundance of water on my rear, a thick wood on my right and a large plain on my left. Upon my executing this movement the enemy's fire increased, particularly that of his artillery, by which Capt. Fernando Urriza was wounded. About 1,000 cavalry sallied out of the wood and boldly attacked my escort, which was posted on the left, causing it to fall back for a few moments and wounding a dragoon. I commanded two companies of cazodores to attack them and they succeeded in repelling them into the wood.



...re and interesting photograph of the graves of San Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and ...Dolores Tosta de Santa Anna, in Mexico City. Hold the picture at arm's length and you ...e that the tombstone appears to be a woman draped in a shawl.

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Chronicle Sunday, November 9, 1930

FACTS OF SAN JACINTO BATTLE ARE TERSELY SET FORTH IN NEW HISTORY BY CLARENCE WHARTON

Was the battle of San Jacinto in reality one of the decisive battles of the world? "San Jacinto, the Sixteenth Decisive Battle," is the title of a pretty illustrated volume just published by Clarence Wharton, already widely known as an authoritative writer on Texas history and himself a descendant of a stalwart patriot of the Lone Star republic.

A member of the largest law firm in the South, and a citizen interested always in the current problems of his state, Clarence Wharton would seem to have found enough there for a quite busy and interesting life. But those who know him best will probably tell you that, as he sees it, he has struck rich pay only when he has found the pure gold of some fact of Texas history.

But getting back to this thing of appraising San Jacinto as a decisive battle of the history of the world. Measured by the numbers engaged on the battle line, the statement could of course have no support, for only about 2000 took part altogether. Measured by the issue immediately involved, the idea would be equally lacking in support, for it was then nothing more than the climax of the revolt of a small, pioneering colony.

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Measure of Importance.

But the decisive battles of the world are not always so measured. That heroic stand of less than 1000 patriots at Lynchburg a little less than 100 years ago inevitably led on to the extension of the southern frontier of the United States through a vast domain from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is a huge area, offering today more possibilities, more promise for the America of tomorrow than probably any other part of the western continent. "The acquisition of that vast domain," says Mr. Wharton, "was a major event in human history and a contrary result, which would have left this great terrain under a foreign flag, would have varied the drama of the world." Here Mr. Wharton employes the yardstick made by Creasy, who, in selecting the "15 decisive battles of the world from Marathon to Waterloo," chose only those in which "a contrary result would have essentially varied the drama of the world."

Beginning with the fall of the Alamo, Mr. Wharton's new book follows the movement of the patriot army from Gonzales to the Colorado, to the Brazos, to Harrisburg, and on to San Jacinto.

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Debated Points.

Each of the many times debated points is met by the author with a terse, in fact, a rather too laconic, statement of the controlling fact as he sees it. Should Houston have met the enemy on the Colorado? Or on the Brazos? Were those retreats, seemingly disastrous at the time, because Sam Houston did not know what he was doing or because, keeping always his own counsel, Houston saw further and wiser than the rest?

Did General Houston really mean to take the north fork of the road on to the Nacogdoches country and thus continue and make sure his long retreat? Or did he mean to take the south fork, thus going to the protection of his government and in the general direction of the enemy? Did the vanguard of his own army really decide that question for him when it reached the forks of the road?

Was Vince's bridge destroyed to cut off the retreat of Santa Ana? Or to cut off reinforcements coming to him? What purpose did the destruction of the bridge actually accomplish? Were the men who met the Mexican enemy at San Jacinto the colonists themselves or were they more largely itinerant youngsters on adventure bent? Did Sam Houston come to Texas pursuant to an understanding with Andrew Jackson that Texas was to be carved into an addition to the slave states of the union, as asserted in Massachusetts school histories in days gone by?

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Replete With Facts.

On these and other controversial points the author refrains from conclusions of his own but, in the briefest fashion, gives you what he conceives to be the controlling facts.

Probably Mr. Wharton can be said to over-value the facts, if that may be regarded as possible. For a man of his wide, free range of thought, he has too little to say of the facts. He is content with too bare a statement of them.

Mr. Wharton adopts the "debunk" idea entirely and a number of picturesque and stirring traditions are among the casualties. He does this with as much tact as is possible, consistent with terse statement, but, probably, in his purpose to be brief, he is often too abrupt to be entirely tactful.

"San Jacinto, the Sixteenth Decisive Battle," is replete with facts plainly and simply stated. They are the pertinent facts, too, the very ones that just about everyone wants to know.

It is a book which no true book lover, interested in the history and traditions of this state, can afford to be without.

TWENTY-MINUTE BATTLE GAVE TEXAS ITS FREEDOM

4-21-31

San Jacinto Day 95 Years Ago Saw Crushing Defeat of Army Under Napoleon of the West; Excerpts Quoted From General Santa Anna's Reports Show Strategy Followed by Mexican Leader in His Attempt to Cut to Pieces the Forces of the Texan Revolutionists Near Lynchburg.

A SQUAT, swarthy man sloughed through the knee-high grass along the south bank of Buffalo Bayou. It was a brilliant morning, that 22nd day of April in 1836, and as the sun neared its zenith the man, a dejected figure in ill-fitting blue cotton jumper and red felt slippers, looked fearfully behind him and crouched lower as he made his tortuous way across the marsh.

Finally, exhausted, he sat down on a stump.

Behind his back came the splash of horses crossing Vinces Bayou. The man perched on the stump did not stir.

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No Sign of Resistance.

Five men, their buckskin hunting jackets smeared with mud and their eyes bleary from a night in the saddle, rode up. He made no show of resistance when their long knives flashed. But one of the five was Joel Robison, a jovial fellow, who spoke Spanish.

Robison dragged the bedraggled little man up behind him on his horse and the cavalcade reined back to the south.

Thus did the self-styled Napoleon of the West, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, return to his Waterloo, the battlefield of San Jacinto. Robison and his prisoner talked as they rode along.

"Why did you come and fight us?" demanded the Texan.

"A private soldier, senor, has little choice in such matters."

The arrival of the five horsemen and their dejected prisoner caused a commotion in the camp of the Texans. Robison, riding by a group of Mexican prisoners, was preparing to turn his charge over to the guard when the captives began doffing their sombrerors to the man behind him.

"El presidente!"

The little man asked to be taken to Gen. Sam Houston.

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Surrender to Houston.

A knot of gaunt men, cursing curiously, gathered around the prisoner as he approached the spot where Houston, his right leg shattered above the knee, lay on a pallet beneath a moss-draped liveoak. Today the state house at Austin hangs a huge canvas depicting that meeting of the Napoleon of the West and his Wellington. That picture is carried in the mind of every Texan—Houston, his leg in bandages, Santa Anna standing at his feet, about them tall men towering.

It was this meeting which made significant the bloody events of the day before, which made a shrine of a plain beside a sluggish bayou and listed San Jacinto among the decisive battles of history.

In Texas there still were two Mexican armies, each as large as the command that the Texans had routed — Filisola at Thompsons Crossing, "16 leagues distant"—Urrea at the mouth of the Brazos. But Santa Ana, their commander in chief, stood at the feet of Sam Houston, under a live oak on the banks of Buffalo Bayou. So the Napoleon of the West proposed an armistice, which Houston dictated, and Deaf Smith, the Texas scout, rode away with orders, signed by El Presidente, for the Mexican generals to quit Texas.

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Cross Rio Grande.

Filisola and Urrea, fearing for the life of their commander if the orders were not obeyed, turned their dragoons toward Matamoros. When their commands crossed the Rio Grande the flag of the southern republic was to be borne by armed men only once again on the soil that was to be Texas. That was in 1845, and then the advance was halted by troops of the United States.

The six weeks before San Jacinto are the most tragic in the history of Texas. Houston took command of the army at Gonzales on March 11. That same day came rumors of the fall of the Alamo, and two days later Deaf Smith rode into camp with Mrs. A. M. Dickinson, her 15-months-old baby and Travis' negro servant—the only survivors of the band commanded by W. B. Travis, the man who made good his word, "I shall never surrender or retreat."

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The Retreat Across Texas.

Houston began the retreat across the face of Texas that will remain a source of speculation for historians for generations to come. Perhaps the move was a master stroke of strategy, its idea conceived by Houston in some day long past when he studied in the war college at Washington. The feeble Texas government, headed by David Burnet, urged Houston to turn and fight. But day after day the column pushed over hill and across prairie along trails where the two precious cannon—the Twin Sisters, gifts of the people of Cincinnati—had to be carried on the backs of men.

"I consulted none," said Houston, "held no councils of war. If I err, the blame is mine."

Came the news that Fannin and his 390 men had been executed at Goliad. "The Runaway Scrape" was the phrase coined later to describe the pellmell scramble of settlers and their families toward the Louisiana line and safety.

On the east bank of the Brazos at San Felipe, Houston's tattered columns halted. On April 7 the Mexicans appeared on the other bank of the swollen stream and for four days Santa Anna's cannon threw shells across the river, which did no damage in the Texas camp.

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Again Retreat Is Ordered.

The Mexicans drew off and marched down the Brazos to Thompson's Crossing, near Richmond. Again Houston gave orders to march and his column, burdened with hundreds of refugees and their luggage, moved again toward the east.

Just what happened at a certain fork of the road in what is now Waller County probably will remain a matter for controversy. One road led to Nacogdoches, the Saline and safety. The other led to Harrisburg and a battle with Santa Anna.

Houston had ordered volunteers from Louisiana and Mississippi and Tennessee to assemble on the Sabine. Did he plan to continue his retreat to join them? And did the desperate Texans, goaded to fight by Burnet and the government, turn toward the south without orders from their commander?

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Decision at Cross-Roads.

At any rate, no orders of Houston remain to settle the point. Un-

der orders or not, the advance guard turned to the right at the famous fork of the road—some day a monument may mark the fork of those two dim traces on the prairie—and the decision was made.

It was the morning of April 18 when the Texans forded Buffalo Bayou and saw the log cabins of Harrisburg in ashes. Santa Anna had come and gone. With 500 men he had dashed into the town, hoping to capture the government and make an end of the war. But Burnet and his cabinet officers had slipped down the bayou to Galveston Island, and the only prisoners were three printers who refused to desert Gail Borden's Texas Telegraph, with a big story breaking.

The events that led up to the fight, as related later in the official reports of the two commanders:

Santa Anna: "I entered Harrisburg the night of the 15th, lighted by the glare of several houses that were burning, and found only a Frenchman and two North Americans working in a print shop. They declared that the so-called president (Burnet) . . . and other important personages had left at noon for the Island of Galveston in a small steamboat, that the families had abandoned their homes by order of General Houston, who was at Groce's Crossing with 800 men and two four-pounders.

"The arrest of the leaders of the rebellion having been frustrated . . . I ordered Colonel Almonte with 50 dragoons . . . to make a reconnaissance at Lynchburg . . . to decide upon my subsequent operations. The colonel told me . . . that colonists . . . asserted that General Houston was retreating to the Trinity by way of Lynchburg.

"To intercept Houston's march and to destroy with one blow the armed forces and the hopes of the revolutionists was too important a blow to allow the opportunity to escape. I decided to take the crossing at Lynchburg before his arrival . . .

"When I arrived, Houston had taken possession of the woods on the banks of Buffalo Bayou, whose waters join the San Jacinto at that point . . .

"I retired about 1000 varas and camped on a hill that gave me an advantageous position, with water on the rear, heavy woods to our right . . . open plains to the left, and a clear front."

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Houston's Report.

Sam Houston, the victor, had nothing to explain away; his report of the maneuvers before the battle is brief:

"On the evening of the 18th . . . the army arrived opposite Harrisburg. That evening a courier of the enemy was taken, from whom I learned that General Santa Anna, with one division of choice troops, had marched in the direction of Lynchs Ferry on the San Jacinto . . .

"The army was ordered," continued the Texas commander, "to be in readiness to march early on the next morning.

"The main body effected a crossing over Buffalo Bayou . . . having left the baggage and the sick and a sufficient camp guard in the rear. We continued the march throughout the night, making one short halt on the prairie for a short time and without refreshments.

"At daylight we resumed the line of march and in a short distance our scouts encountered those of the enemy, and we received information that General Santa Anna was at New Washington and would that day take up the line of march for Anahuac, crossing at Lynch's Ferry.

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Army of Santa Anna Approaches.

"The Texan army halted within half a mile of the ferry in some timber and was engaged in slaughtering beeves, when the army of Santa Anna was discovered to be approaching in battle array. . . . Disposition was immediately made of our forces and preparation made for his reception."

The first day's fighting was an artillery duel between the Twin Sisters and a lone Mexican field piece. Joe Neill, commanding the Texan guns, gave the order that sent a charge of broken horseshoes into the advancing Mexicans. The dragoons parted and a field piece answered the Texan fire. The cannon whanged away, doing little damage on either side.

Sidney Sherman led a cavalry charge in an attempt to take the Mexican gun but failed, losing two men and several horses.

Forthwith the rise to fame of Mirabeau Bonaparte Lamar, promoted by Houston from private to commander of the cavalry brigade—53 men.

A strange calm lay over the prairie during the night while fires of the two camps flickered—barely 700 yards apart. Deaf Smith and Henry Karnes, the Texan scouts, snaked through the grass to within a few paces of the Mexican breastworks and kept their all-night vigil.

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Cos Reaches Camp.

Reveille rolled at 4 as usual on that morning of April 21. Yet Sam Houston slept on, and the sun was high above the ferry when he rose leisurely and strolled from campfire to campfire. The Texans, fidgeting for a fight, squatted about, sweating their long Texas jacks, testing the flints of their long rifles.

A long line of pack mules and marching men appeared over the swell to the south; Deaf Smith privately informed Houston that Cos had arrived with 540 cavalrymen, swelling the Mexican army to 1350 men.

At noon the Texans held a council of war at which heated words were passed, but no decision was reached.

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Order for Attack.

It was 3:30 o'clock when Houston gave the order to form the line for the attack, and half an hour later the Texans moved forward to the tune of "Come to the Bower," a frontier love song, wailed by a lone fife.

The thin line moved slowly up the swell of San Jacinto—the left covered by the marshy shores of the river, the right by Lamar's men and the Twin Sisters.

On a white stallion Houston rode in front of his men.

"Hold your fire, men, hold your fire!"

Deaf Smith reined up his mustang to shout that Vince's Bayou bridge had been burned. The significance of the destruction of that span was to be the capture of Santa Anna the next day, but the Texans believed that their only way of retreat had been cut off.

Twenty yards from the flimsy Mexican breastworks of saddles and camp accoutrements, one of the Twin Sisters roared. The Texans surged forward, long knives flashing, snarling through dry lips: "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!"

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Mexicans at Rest.

Cos' men, worn out from their forced march, were drowsing under the trees. Santa Anna was sound asleep in his marquee. General Castrillon, to whom the Mexican commander had entrusted the maintaining of the vigil, was donning his dress uniform in his tent.

The barricade shattered; the Texans stormed through the camp. A few Mexicans rallied about a cannon. They fell before the knives of the Texans. General Almonte rallied 400 men and galloped away.

Here is the way Santa Anna described his actions after he was so rudely awakened on that April afternoon:

"As fatigue and long vigils provoke heavy slumber, I was sleeping deeply and when the din and fire of battle awoke me, I immediately became aware that we were being attacked and that great disorder prevailed.

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Victory in a Few Minutes.

"The enemy had surprised our advance guard, a party attacked the three chosen companies that guarded the woods to our right and took possession of them, increasing the confusion with their unfailing rifles. The rest of the infantry of the enemy were making a front attack, protected by their two cannon, while their cavalry charged our left.

"Although the evil was done, I thought for a moment that it might be repaired. . . . My efforts were all in vain. The front line was abandoned by the two battalions. . . . The two newly organized columns were dispersed, Colonel Cespedes being wounded and Captain Luelmo killed. General Castrillon . . . fell mortally wounded. . . . The enemy carried their charge forward rapidly, and shouting madly, secured a victory in a few minutes that they did not dream was possible.

"A servant of my aide-de-camp . . . with noble kindness offered me a horse. . . ."

Thus in 20 minutes the Mexican camp was a shambles, Santa Anna was goading the horse of his aide-de-camp in mad flight, and the battle of San Jacinto was won.

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An English Version.

The flight and the pursuit went on into the night.

Not all accounts of the battle of San Jacinto are so ardent in praise of the valor of the Texan army. There's this one in "The Adventures of Monsieur Violet in California, Sonora and Texas," by Capt. Frederick Marryat, an English fabricator who never crossed the Atlantic:

"The battle of St. Jacinta, which decided the separation of Texas, has been greatly cried up by the Texans; the fact is, it was no battle at all. The Mexicans were commanded by Santa Anna, who has great military talent, and the Mexicans reposed full confidence in him. Santa Anna, feeling very unwell, went to a farm house at a

yellow braid.

"I am of the opinion that the yellow braid was peculiarly appropriate for Santa Anna. However, if I had been present I would have been tempted to suggest to the artist that, as Santa Anna is the only general we have any account of in history to abandon the battlefield just as the initial shots were being fired, and so hurriedly he did not wait for his own horse to be saddled, but jumped on another man's mount and skedaddled—why not put on him a yellow mother hubbard?

Aide Stays to Fight.

"Here is General Castrillion, risking and sacrificing his life in the very midst of the battle, while his commanding officer flees. There is where the main fighting took place, there around the Mexican artillery where the soldiers are thickest, near Sam Houston. But for the gallant Castrillion, I don't suppose there would have been more than eight minutes of fighting. He was a brave Mexican.

"There is Sergeant Sylvester clubbing his gun at Castrillion, while the latter aims his flintlock pistol at him. You see Deaf Smith in his buckskins, wearing his characteristic expression of deafness, lunging his saber at a Mexican. There, behind Sam Houston, is the blue Texas flag, with its white figure of a handsome woman, the spirit of liberty, and its grim legend, "Liberty or Death."

You see here Mirabeau B. Lamar, who commanded the Texas cavalry. Before him, on the ground, lies Walter P. Lane, whom the Mexican color bearer has forced off his horse. Evidently Lane's gun is empty. Lamar fired his pistol over Lane and his horse, killing the Mexican color bearer as dead as a door nail. I have always believed that act made Lamar the second president of the republic of Texas.

This is Captain Karnes, the noted scout, for whom Karnes county was named. And here is Edward Burleson, grandfather of Albert Sidney Burleson, now living here in Austin, who served as postmaster general in President Wilson's cabinet. You see Burleson firing his horse pistol.

"And here is John Trask, in the death agonies, one hand clutching his mother's locket over his breast. Trask was one of the few Texans killed in the battle. He was a Washington county school teacher.

Flees Afoot.

"There is Colonel Blount, said to have been the grandfather of Eugene Blount of Nacogdoches, who died recently.

"Leaving the scene of action, Santa Anna went to where he thought Vince's bridge was. He and his men had come over the bridge, but it now had disappeared. He tried to cross the river, and his horse bogged. Then he proceeded on foot on the north side of the river. He later said that he went to a house and found the suit of clothes he had on next day when captured.

"Sergeant Sylvester and another Texas soldier, scouting for escaped Mexicans, saw Santa Anna and chased him. He saw them by the time they espied him, and dropped down in the tall grass and tried to crawl away. They went after him. When they overtook him, he lay there in the grass as if dead. Sergeant Sylvester said, 'Damn you, get up from there.' The other scout drew his pistol, and the Mexican then arose.

"He wore a Mexican private's uniform, and they did not recognize him. One of the Texans who could speak Spanish questioned him. He said he was a cavalryman, that his horse was bogged, and he was not used to walking. They took him 11 miles to camp, not suspecting that they had Santa Anna, until they got him among the other Mexican prisoners, and they commenced saluting him and hailing him as El Presidente.

"Before the battle started, Sam Houston had said to Deaf Smith, 'Take a couple of men and sharp axes and go down and destroy Vince's bridge.' General Houston had two reasons for that; he wanted to prevent expected Mexican reinforcements from joining Santa Anna, and also to cut Santa Anna's men off from retreat. He figured he had them in a trap—and he did.

"It was eight miles down to the bridge. When Deaf Smith's detail returned, they announced that Vince's bridge had been destroyed. The historian says that bridge was destroyed by fire. I imagine they cut out its pinnings and fired it in half a dozen places.

Caught Napping.

"Then General Houston ordered his men to be in readiness in half an hour to attack the Mexican camp. The assault caught the Mexicans napping. They were thrown into consternation. Chilled by the Texans' vengeful reminders of the Alamo and Goliad, they turned tail and fled frantically—back toward the bridge. Like their commander, they found the bridge gone. Pressed by the deadly fire, they piled into the water, trampling each other, drowning, some of them getting across, only to be captured.

"General Houston's report of the engagement in a nutshell, stated that two Texans were killed outright, and 23 wounded, six mortally; that 630 Mexicans were killed, between two and three hundred wounded, and most of the rest, including Santa Anna, made prisoners. He reported the capture of a large quantity of equipment, and $12,000 in money.

"Houston had the captured equipment turned over to the provisional government of Texas. The money he ordered divided among his men. The government wanted the money, too, but the men already had it in their jeans.

"The soldiers clamored for Santa Anna's life. They wanted to court-martial and shoot him. 'He murdered Fannin and his men at Goliad,' they urged. 'He massacreed our men in the Alamo.'

"But Houston said, 'Nay, nay; a live Santa Anna is worth many dead Santa Annas to Texas just now. Killing Santa Anna would not bring a single dead Texan back to life. There are seven more Mexican divisions out; if we kill their president they will seek vengeance and the war will go on. Let's use Santa Anna to end the war, and send word to the people that the struggle is over and they can return to their homes.'

"The wise leader's reasoning prevailed. Houston kept Santa Anna about a year. He sent him to Washington and let him come in contact with Andrew Jackson, then president of the United States, under whose command Houston had been wounded three times. The United States presumably was neutral in a row with Mexico. But we don't have to draw very heavily on our imaginations to hear old Sam Houston say, 'Santa Anna, if ever you come back to Texas again, Uncle Sam will give you another thrashing, and you have sense enough to know it.' Then he sent him back to Mexico at the expense of the United States government."

In conclusion, the lecturer says:

"Seven years from this month our Texas centennial will begin. One hundred years since those thrilling scenes were enacted at San Jacinto, at Goliad, and at the Alamo. One hundred years since George Childress took the goose quill pen in hand and wrote our declaration of independence. One hundred years since Crockett, Bowie, Milam, Fannin and Bonham poured out their bloods for Texas independence. One hundred years since Sam Houston secured our liberty from Mexico.

"We have a glorious history, and I predict the greatest historical exposition ever held in Texas or any other state.

"Without straining myself in the least, I have managed to get my own consent to live the seven years. And when the time comes, I expect to go down to the battlefield, 20 miles east of Houston, tune up the old fiddle, and play 'Santa Anna's Retreat'."

Mr. Walter came to Texas in 1872, settling at Gonzales, where he lived until four years ago. He served four years in the legislature during Campbell's administration.

Letter Written by Great-Uncle of a Dallasite Reopens Old Controversy As to the Texan Marching Tune.

By Kate Hassell.

Did the popular love song of 1836, "Will You Come Into My Bower?" furnish the rhythmic beat to which the frontier soldiers marched out to meet the Mexican army at San Jacinto?

One who was present says "yes." Yet another who was present records two months after the battle that the men stepped out lively to the strains of "Yankee Doodle."

In this document, written by J. W. Hassell, June 21, 1836, in the Republic of Texas, Austin Colony, to his father, Jesse Hassell, a Methodist minister living at Fleetwood Postoffice, Hines County, Mississippi, is the statement.

"Our Colonel ordered 'Yankee Doodle' played and beat in double-quick time."

Writer Is His Niece.

This Colonel was Edward Burleson, Colonel of the First Regiment of Texas Volunteers; this J. W. Hassell was a private in Company K of this regiment. The original letter is in the possession of Mrs. H. J. O'Hair, Coleman, Texas, a grandniece of this young private, and the photostat from which this quotation is given is held by the writer of this article, another grandniece. Photostats of this letter are also in the library of the State University at Austin and another is in the Rosenberg Library of Galveston. The position of this regiment was the center of the formation facing the Mexicans.

Never Came Home.

My uncle left Mississippi to join the Texas forces against the Mexicans, and though he was not killed at San Jacinto, as the record shows and this letter to his father testifies, his young wife and two children never saw him again. His wife treasured his letters; this particular one she kept until she was an old, old

lady, finally relinquishing it to his devoted sister, the grandmother of Mrs. O'Hair.

Whether this intrepid young fighter was later killed by the Mexicans or perhaps the Indians was never known to his family.

Texas' Most Dramatic Spring.

Well, back to the tune. Whatever the measure to which these daring men trod as they advanced against Santa Anna's division of the Mexican Army, they bore themselves with distinction that day and made history that lies treasured in the heart of every true Texan.

This battle of San Jacinto can not be thought of apart from the six or seven weeks immediately preceding. It is inseparable from such stirring events as the Declaration of Independence March 2, the storming of the Alamo March 6, the massacre at Goliad Sunday morning, March 27. These events were united as a part of a piece in the mind of my great-uncle, J. W. Hassell, when he was writing the following letter to his father in Mississippi. He says:

"Republic of Texas, Austin Colony,

"June 21, 1836.

"Dear Father:

"You have no doubt heard of our troubles in this Republic with the Mexican Nation. I will endeavor to give you an idea of matters here. On or about the first of March, last, there was an army of 8,000 Mexican troops introduced into Texas by order of the Government to exterminate every American citizen in the limits of Texas. They first attacked San Antonio, where 180 were stationed under Colonel Travis. They succeeded after bombardment of eighteen days in storming the place and putting to the sword every man in it. Their (Mexican) loss not known precisely, though considerable. Their next advance was on La Bahia, where there were about 400 men commanded by Colonel Fannin. He commenced a retreat from the fort with 305 men, but was pursued by the enemy and overtaken in a large plain about 3 o'clock p. m. The engagement then commenced with about 2,000 of the enemy. There was a constant peal of artillery and small arms till night, our men surrounded entirely by the enemy. About six killed and thirty wounded of the Americans. Loss of the enemy not less than 180 killed with many wounded. At the appearance of daylight there appeared a reinforcement with a train of artillery. Two were discharged and the enemy hoisted white flag. It was answered by another from Colonel Fannin. The officers of each army then met. They then proposed a treaty to our men. Colonel Fannin then entered into a capitulation with the Mexicans. The articles were then drawn up and signed by the officers of each army. It was expressly stipulated in the articles that our men should be treated as prisoners of war, all private property should be respected belonging to our men and at the end of eight days our men should embark on bard vessels for New Orleans, though they were required to take an oath that they would never take up arms against the Mexican Government again. Colonel Fannin and men were then marched back to the fort, orders were then issued by Santa Anna to have them shot. The order was not complied with by the commander who took Colonel Fannin. The second and third order was sent before complied with, though the eighth day they were marched out in four divisions and shot. There were about twenty that made their escape at the time, though very much wounded.

"I saw most of the men as they came in. The Mexican Army then marched for the colonies in three divisions. We then had about 400 men in the field to contend against their forces. Our army was then on the Guadalupe River. Our army reinforced slow and had to retreat. We retreated east of the Colorado River and there encamped until the Mexicans came on the other side. We lay there for several days, then retreated east of the Brazos, the enemy still in pursuit. One division of the enemy crossed the river below us of about 800 men, still keeping up the march for the east. Our General then took up the line of march after them. We headed them on the San Jacinto. We were 1,100 strong. We left our sick and baggage with about 400 men. We marched with the balance to give them battle.

The Day Before.

"We met with them the next day and cannonaded each a little without any loss on our part and but little on theirs. In the evening of the same day their cavalry and ours had a smart skirmish. We had many whose thighs were broken and who died after. The enemy sustained some loss by the operation. This was on April 20.

How They Went Into Battle.

"On the 21st they received a reinforcement which augmented their numbers to about 1,500 strong. Our number about 800. We were encamped within a half mile of each other in plain view. Our officers determined to give them battle at 4 o'clock in the evening. According at the above stated time the drum beat a general parade which was cheering to every man. We then marched up with 763 men and formed the line of battle within 200 yards of the enemy, where they stood in good order to receive us. We then marched up within a good rifle shot, our men and officers pleasant, cool and brave as lions. The firing then commenced from both sides. Our Colonel ordered 'Yankee Doodle' played and beat in double-quick time.

"Delightful Tune."

"We were commanded to charge and it appeared to me that we were among them in an instant. It would have done your heart good to have seen them fall. Our cannons, our muskets, our rifles and pistols played, it appeared to me, the most delightful tune that ever I heard since the world commenced. I had first-rate rifle, and about this time I was using her, sir, with all my might. She run about forty to the pound and shot first-rate. I took notice to some of the big yellow bellies. When Betsy would bare a hole in them the claret would gush out as large as a corn stalk. One big fellow I remember whom I shot in the neck and it appeared to near cut his head off.

Fired Seven Shots.

"I shot old Betsy six times and a large holster pistol one time. In the seven shots I know that I killed four, that thing I know. As I above stated about my pistol, I shot that fellow in the eye plum. It may appear strange to you, but no less strange than true, it seemed to do me more good at that time to shoot them or run a bayonet through them than anything that I have yet done, and it appeared to be the prevailing feeling or sentiment.

"Well, sir, I must tell you that when we got so near them as to shake hands with them, they could not bear that, they appeared rather bashful at such a meeting as that, and turned their backs on us and the best of this way off. About this time we were slaying them like cornstalks.

"This was an open-field fight. We gained complete victory over them in about sixteen minutes. We took about 700 prisoners, a large number of whom were fatally wounded. We took all the officers except two. A Lieutenant Colonel and one Captain made their escape. The monster, Santa Anna, who can have men taken out and murdered without a change of countenance, or the least remorse of conscience after making a solemn and sacred treaty. Such conduct could not be expected from savage heathens; much less by a Nation which pretends to be enlightened, civilized and Christianized.

Santa Anna a Prisoner.

"But we have this great Santa Anna now a prisoner with three other of his Generals and with officers to the amount of about thirty. There were many officers killed—we had six men killed, two died from their wounds, we had about twenty-five men wounded, most of which were very slight wounds, none mortal except the above mentioned two.

"The people are determined to kill Santa Anna, and I expect with all of his principal officers.

"I told you the Mexicans marched in three divisions. We defeated Santa Anna's division. Hostilities then ceased and an armistice was entered into. The Mexican Army then retreated out of Texas to Matamoras—and our wise men are trying to make a treaty with Santa Anna, and effected it as they thought and put him on board a vessel to send him, but the people would not stand it and brought him back. To show you there is no confidence to be placed in any of the Mexican people, this army agreed to stand to any treaty Santa Anna would make. They assured us they would.

Could Beat Them Again.

"We got news on the 19th instant the same army was retracing steps back to Texas and swear they intend to exterminate every American to the Sabine River, or never see Mexico again. They number 10,000 now. The people are ordered to turn out in mass and repair to the seat of war with all dispatch. If they do not turn out now on the very spot, Texas is gone. We can beat with one-third of their number with ease. We have already done it. In two days I shall start again. I came in two weeks ago today.

"We have only about 1,000 men in the field at present. Our army will have to retreat in less than eight days. Now is the great struggle with Texas, but if the people will turn out now on the spot we could beat them to death.

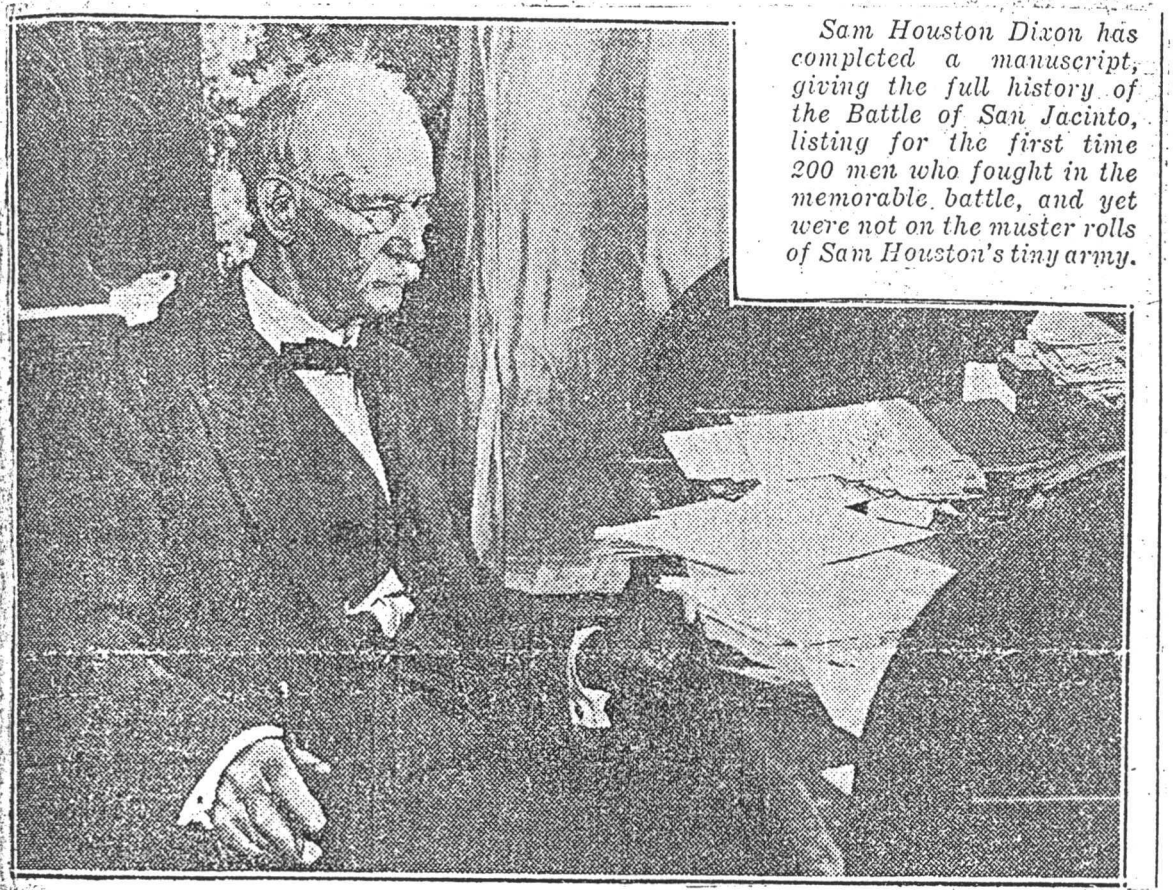
Entitled to 5,000 Acres.

"I could say a heap to you if I could see you. If we can gain this country I shall be entitled to 5,000 acres of land, which will be a fortune to me some day, or my children, if they should live. This may be my last address to you. War is fluctuating. You can tell anybody that may inquire where I am. If I get out of this war alive I shall see you all in Mississippi again as soon as I can secure my land titles. Nothing would give me more satisfaction as seeing all would. Your son till death,

"J. M. HASSELL."

His widow we called Aunt Becky. She was often in my father's home. She was about 80 years old when I first knew her. Through my father's influence her claim was established to a 1,000-acre tract of land in North Texas, a part of the 5,000 acres that her husband referred to in the latter part of this letter. My father also secured for her a pension.

Heroes of San Jacinto to Parade Through Book



Sam Houston Dixon has completed a manuscript, giving the full history of the Battle of San Jacinto, listing for the first time 200 men who fought in the memorable battle, and yet were not on the muster rolls of Sam Houston's tiny army.

Houstonian Spent Half Century of Inquiry

PRINTED SOON

Many Names Will Be There That Were "Forgotten"

By BONNIE TOM ROBINSON
Reporter for The Press

NINETY-SIX years ago a band of Texans, greatly outnumbered Mexican soldiers, fought the 18-minute battle which made Texas

Thursday was the day when orators were to recall the deeds of those who have become figures dim almost legendary.

They will relate once more the which have been said again again of those men whose cry, "Remember the Alamo Remember Goliad," struck a terror to the hearts of their and in so brief a time rout- completedly.

This is no recounting of the things that they will say, nor is it yet a resume of that momentous batttle.

Rather it is the story of a slight, white-haired man past 80—Sam Houston Dixon of 610 Highland avenue.

For him this anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto is a real celebration, and it brings a feeling of deep content.

Before him on his desk lies a completed manuscript. He has concluded a work begun 60 years ago when 300 veterans of the battle lived to fill his willing ears with stories of the San Jacinto campaign.

* * *

"I REALIZED they couldn't live always," he said, staring into space as though it held for him a vision of old men recalling the high point of their glory.

"I took advantage of the opportunity to know them and to listen to their stories. To know them was to know a heroic race, and long ago I decided I was going to try to see that the public knew something about their lives."

The completed manuscript of short biographical sketches of almost every man who fought with Houston now is ready for the press—because, as a youth, General Houston's namesake thought "it ought to be done."

In his book he lists for the first time the names of 200 men who fought at San Jacinto and yet were not included in the official muster roll prepared by General Houston.

"You see, there was great disorder there," he began his explanation of the omissions, "and the roll was made up in a hurry. I have found one case where a man was assigned to make a list of those in his company and in making it forgot to include his own name.

"Later land was granted to the men who participated in the battle. From the old land office records the best check of the men who fought there is found."

* * *

THE HEROES OF SAN JACINTO is rich in sidelights that make the men it deals with very human.

There is, for instance, Mr. Dixon recalled, the case of a soldier who was sentenced to be shot as a deserter when the Texan army was encamped on the Brazos River.

"His grave already was dug," he said, "when Houston pardoned him.

San Jacinto

INFORMATION THE HOUSTON P

4-20/33

Trails of Texas Heroes

Led to Romance, Tragedy, Wealth After San

Book Traces Careers of Men Who Helped Free Lone Star State

By BONNIE TOM ROBINSON

WINDING and long were the trails which led the soldiers of San Jacinto to their bayou battlefield.

Some were foreign born, and all states in the Union were represented in Sam Houston's ragged army. It was a hodge-podge of men—sturdy farmers, aristocrats, rovers with adventure hot in their veins.

Diverse as had been their backgrounds they were knit into a desperate fighting band by a common cause—the liberation of Texas. Their voices blended in the same battle cry, stirring to them, terrible to the ears of Santa Anna's soldiers. Together they launched that fierce 17-minute onslaught; together they tasted victory in one of the decisive battles of the world. For a moment they stood with all heroes of history.

After the Battle

What happened after San Jacinto?

These were young men with most of their lives ahead of them. Houston, himself, was only 43.

Many of the adventurers felt like their job was done. Things looked a little tame to them with Santa Anna out of the picture, and they soon were on their roving ways.

Some of the young fellows who had left good homes in Georgia, Mississippi, Carolina, remembered their mothers' good cooking and comfortable feather beds. They were pretty tired of corn pone and shuck mattresses. They went home.

Most of the San Jacinto veterans left Texas homesteads to join the army. They returned to them to clear more fields, build larger log houses. A republic and a state were to be built. They turned their shoulders to the work.

Trails Separate

So the trails which led away from San Jacinto stretched long and winding, even as those which converged there 97 years ago Friday.

Down them waited romance, tragedy, wealth, poverty, routine. Keenly, patiently Louis Wiltz Kemp, co-author of the Heroes of San Jacinto, has traced the careers of many of the veterans of the battle which made Texas free.

A tragic romance was journey's end for Hershel Corzine, Kemp's researches show.

Corzine was a private in the second regiment. He returned to his home in San Augustine when he was mustered out. A few years later he fell in love.

Refused to Take "No"

The names of his sweetheart and his rival are lost, but their story reads like melodrama. Corzine wouldn't take "No" for an answer.

His sweetheart engaged herself to his rival. The rival had to make a trip to New York, and their wedding was to be celebrated on his return.

Corzine was crafty if nothing else. He slipped over into a Louisiana town and had a newspaper insert a story saying that the ship on which his rival sailed for New York had been lost with all aboard.

Then he came back to San Augustine to console a young woman who soon decided that her first choice gone, she might as well make sure of her second. They were married, but the rival came home. He discovered the trick and shot Corzine to death in the streets of San Augustine.

Mustang Gray

Mayberry B. Gray, Mustang Gray, in cowboy ballad and legend, was one San Jacinto veteran who never did quit fighting Mexicans. He kept up a one-man war on them in and around Victoria until his death in 1848.

Once he killed seven single handed and made off with their horses. He earned his nickname.

With Santa Anna headed back south towards his capital, there was still plenty of opportunity for a fighting man in Texas. Capt. Jesse Billingsley thought so.

His left hand was crippled for life in a wound received at San

For 18 minutes these men fought at San Jacinto and Texas won her freedom from Mexico. Fifty-nine years later, in 1895, they gathered in reunion in Galveston—the remnant of Houston's army nearing Journey's End.

INFORMATION FILE

San Jacinto Chronicle

Friday, April 21, 1933

FLAG THAT GEN. SIDNEY SHERMAN CARRIED IN SAN JACINTO FIGHT IS FORMALLY GIVEN TO STATE

By Associated Press.

Austin, April 21.—The flag of General Sidney Sherman, the only banner carried by the victorious Texans in the battle of San Jacinto, was formally presented to the state today on the ninety-seventh anniversary of that history-making conflict.

The presentation speech was made by William E. Kendall of Houston, grandson of General Sherman. Mrs. Lucy Sherman Craig of Houston, only living daughter of the man who commanded the left wing of Sam Houston's forces, was on the platform. The ceremony was held in the hall of the house of representatives before a joint session of the legislature.

The flag was presented to General Sherman by the women of Newport, Ky., on the eve of the departure of General Sherman's company, the Newport Rifles, for Texas to aid in the Texas war for independence.

The banner came into possession of the state many years ago, but only recently, through a legislative appropriation and efforts of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, was it restored to a semblance of its former state.

Coke Stevenson of Junction, speaker of the house, introduced Mrs. O. M. Farnsworth of San Antonio, president of the Daughters of the Republic, as the woman through whose efforts the flag was preserved and restored. "If we resolve anew to perpetuate the characteristics of our heroes, then this day shall not have been in vain," Mrs. Farnsworth said.

Speaker Stevenson accepted the flag on behalf of the house, and the state. The banner is hung in the house chamber immediately behind the speaker's desk.

Stevenson pointed to the inscription, "Liberty or Death," on the banner and asserted that Texans of the present generation could pay no greater tribute to their ancestors than to "hark back" to the principles of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness for which those heroes fought.

He said that no greater duty devolves upon a citizen today than to take an interest in his government, to study its problems and to give wholehearted co-operation to those who are charged with the responsibility of administering those problems.

A joint session of the house and senate also was held to accept a portrait of Maj. Gen. Henry T. Allen, commander of the 90th Division, composed largely of Texans, in the world war.

The presentation address was made by Beauford Jester of Corsicana, chairman of the board of regents of the University of Texas, and an officer under General Allen. The portrait was accepted by Senator Will D. Pace of Tyler, also an officer who served with General Allen.

The portrait was a gift of the 90th Division Association.

Thousands Join Pilgrimage to Battleground

Courage of Sam Houston Praised by Speakers at Ceremony.

4/21/33

On the spot where 97 years ago they gambled life for liberty, Sam Houston and his tattered Texans were made to live again as thousands of Houstonians gathered Friday upon San Jacinto field and paid reverent homage to their lives, their aims and their desperate deeds.

It was the climax of the annual pilgrimage of loyal Texans to the battleground. The day, historians present said, was such a day as that upon which the conflict—now called by many the sixteenth decisive battle of the world's history—was fought. The sky was cloud flecked but the sun was bright and warm.

Speakers drew a picture of the scene at the same time 97 years ago. They sent charging across the field gallant ghosts of Houston's army to throw themselves upon the frenzied spectres of Santa Anna's Mexican army crying in terror "Me no Alamo! Me no Goliad!"

The indomitable courage and the fierce spirit of Sam Houston and his Texans in the face of tremendous odds were held out as the one sure means of facing and solving the problems that beset this generation of Texans.

It was altogether an occasion in which the pride of race was rampant. The heritage of the heroes of San Jacinto was acknowledged in full. But at the end of the program the Texans of today pledged, through Palmer Hutcheson, who delivered the principal address, full friendship and fellowship to the foes of yesterday.

Colonel William B. Bates presided over the program as president of the Sons of the Republic of Texas and Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, granddaughter of Sam Houston, assisted him as president of the San Jacinto chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

At the conclusion of the customary ceremonial program, a monument in honor of Captain James Gillaspie, one of the Texas leaders in the battle, and his men in company 6 was unveiled. The son and daughter of Captain Gillaspie were present.

The band of the Houston public schools began the program by playing "Under the Double Eagle," Victor Alessandro conducting. Then they played "Old Man River," and while the crowd stood, played the "Star Spangled Banner."

Mrs. C. H. Milby, chaplain of San Jacinto chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, delivered the invocation, and when she had ended, Colonel Bates spoke briefly.

"We are met here this beautiful April afternoon, which I understand is like that memorable afternoon 97 years ago, in celebration of the greatest victory in the history of the Western hemisphere. We are not alone to celebrate that victory, but to pay homage to the memory of those who achieved it and to commemorate the memory of those who fell. It is the proudest tradition of our state that we are celebrating.

"Our purpose is to preserve and to instruct our youth in the glories of the past of this great state. There are many descendants here of soldiers who fought on this field, and I want now to introduce Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, the granddaughter of General Sam Houston and the president of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas."

"We are always happy," Mrs. Hearne said, "to join the sons in perpetuating the memory of those who made Texas free and independent." She pointed out that the battleground now is the property of the state as a result of the work of the Daughters of the Republic. "We want to secure and hallow all spots of historical significance," she said.

When Mrs. Hearne had completed her brief address, Colonel Bates announced that the band would play the old air that was popular with the Texas army, "Will You Come Into the Bower."

Mr. Hutcheson began his address by expressing appreciation that many children were present, declaring that the significance of the celebration should be impressed upon all the children of the state.

"As I think back," he said, "I'm tempted to paraphrase the language that Lincoln used in his Gettysburg address, and say 'four score and 17 years ago our fathers brought forth on this battlefield a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the people.'

"Today the future looks uncertain, but as we gaze out at those trees that cover this battlefield, the breeze whispers to us of an evergreen tomorrow.

"By making this pilgrimage today, you see on parade many nations of the world, for Texas was first the country of the Tejas Indians. Then came the French, and later she passed into the hands of Spain; then was French again, and was acquired by the United States as part of the Louisiana purchase, only to be straded back to the Spanish in the acquisition of Florida. Then she became a part of Mexico, and after that, through the valor of the heroes on this field, became an independent republic. After that she passed into the hands of the United States, seceded to join the Confederacy, and then passed once more to become for all time a part of our great country today.

"On Texas soil was fought not only San Jacinto as the last battle of the Texas revolution, but also was fought the last battles of the Mexican war and the Civil war. The searchlight of history has played broadly over the Lone Star state.

"Ninety-seven years ago at this time of the day, this spot was Mexico, not Texas. The flag that waved over it was the Mexican flag. Camped across there was the president of Mexico and his army. Over here was camped the Texas army—without a flag save that one which is today being given to the state. The commander was the future president of Texas.

Bravery Is Praised.

"Seldom has history been decided by such small forces, or by personal conflict of men who left such traces of their lives in the history of their respective countries.

"San Jacinto has been rightly rated with Waterloo and Gettysburg, and called the sixteenth decisive battle of the world."

Mr. Hutcheson touched briefly upon the career of General Houston. "But it is useless to talk of Sam Houston and his achievements," he said. "We recall that climatic conditions were like today; that the Mexicans at this time of the day were taking their siesta. The siesta of Santa Anna was changed to the Fiesta de San Jacinto, and the star that Santa Anna saw when he awakened was the rising Lone Star of Texas with all the stars of Old Glory in the background.

"We need today the courage and indomitable spirit of Sam Houston and his men to meet the trying problems that confront us. We will always remember the Alamo and Goliad and San Jacinto and Travis, Crockett, Bowie, Fannin, Milam and Sam Houston. We must also remember those men who are our present ambassadors to our former enemies, and all those who are wiping out the scars of past wrongs that were avenged at San Jacinto. Our enemies of yesterday are become our friends of today, and we greet them in friendship and fellowship."

INFORMATION FILE

Chronicle Apr 22, 33 San Jacinto

SOLDIERS AT SAN JACINTO HONORED ON ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLE OF REVOLUTION

Patriotic Texans Friday were reminded of the approaching Texas centennial in 1936 at the ninety-seventh anniversary celebration of the battle of San Jacinto. The celebration was held at the battleground under supervision of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, who were joined by Sons of the Republic of Texas.

The day was ideal. The weather was balmy. Scattered clouds dotted the blue sky, and a brilliant sun poured its gold over the scene. Col. William B. Bates, as president of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, presided. He was assisted by Mrs. Paige W. Hearne, granddaughter of Gen. Sam Houston, and president of the San Jacinto Chapter, D. R. T.

Thoughts were turned to the Texas centennial at the unveiling of a granite tablet to the memory of Capt. James Gillaspie of Company 6 of General Houston's army. Mrs. Roscoe Morrelle of Montana, daughter of Captain Gillaspie, unveiled the monument, and W. O. Gillaspie, a son of the Texas soldier, and donor of monument, spoke.

"I tender this little stone of granite with the roster of Company 6, Capt. James Gillaspie, my father and members of his company engraved thereon," Mr. Gillaspie said. "I hope before the Texas centennial three years from now there will be a roster of all the companies erected on these hallowed grounds."

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Tribute to Soldiers.

Mr. Gillaspie paid tribute to the men behind the gunn," who, he said had won the battle of San Jacinto.

He was preceded by Mrs. Murphy who gave some historical facts about the life of her father. She paid high tribute to the brave men who fought at San Jacinto.

Early in the day hundreds of persons made a pilgrimage through the battleground, visiting markers which told of important events. Many enjoyed short boat trips on the Ship Channel, and at noon, parties of little groups spread picnic lunches under the moss-draped trees. Gleeful shouts of playful children echoed where rifles and guns once cracked.

The program began at 2 p.m. The band of the Houston public schools is playing "Under the Double Eagle" with Victor Alessandro directing. Then they played "Old Folks at Home," and while the crowd sang played "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Rev. C. H. Milby, chaplain of the San Jacinto chapter, delivered the invocation. Then Colonel Bates

emy, second prize, and Miss Louise F. Webb of San Jacinto High School, third prize. In the junior division, Miss Marguerite Jones of Jim Hogg School won first prize; Miss Elmoe Holden of Luther Burbank School, second prize, and Miss Robbie May Moffett of Sidney Lanier School, third prize. In each division the prizes were $10, first, $5, second, and $2.50, third. Pictures of Lamar also were presentented to the schools of the two first prize winners.

A stirring address also was delivered by George D. Sears, after the unveiling of the Gillaspie tablet.

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Colonel Bates Speaks.

"We are met here this beautiful April afternoon, which I understand, is like that memorable afternoon 97 years ago, in celebration of the greatest victory in the history of the Western Hemisphere," Colonel Bates said. "We are not alone to celebrate that victory, but to pay homage to the memory of those who achieved it, and to commemorate the memory of those who fell. It is the proudest tradition of our state we are celebrating."

Mrs. Hearne said it was the purpose of her organization to perpetuate the history of Texas and its heroes. She said it was through the efforts of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas that the San Jacinto Battleground was purchased by the state.

The band then played "Will You Come to the Bower," a song which was popular with members of General Houston's army.

"The generation which seems so alive to us is not present," Palmer Hutcheson, Houston attorney, said. "It is their children and descendants we see and hear."

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History of State.

He paraphrased Lincoln's address, and said today a great economic upheaval is testing whether this national shall stand. Today the future looks uncertain, but the evergreen trees whisper assurance of an evergreen tomorrow, he said.

He traced the history of Texas as it was under the control of the Tejas Indians, France, Spain, America, Mexico, Texas Republic, United States, the Confederacy and again under the United States.

"On Texas soil was fought not only the last battle of the Texas revolution, but also the last battles of the Mexican and civil wars. The searchlight of history has played broadley over the Lone Start State.

"Ninety-seven years ago this spot was Mexico and not Texas. The flag that waved over it was the Mexican flag. Camped across there was the president of Mexico and his army. Over here was camped the Texas army—without a flag, save that which is today given the state. The commander was the future president of Texas.

"Seldom has history been decided by such small forces or by personal conflict of men who left such traces of their lives on the history of the respective countries. San Jacinto has been rightly rated with such battles as Waterloo and Gettysburg. It is called the sixteenth decisive battle of the world."

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Lamar Medals Awarded.

Then he discussed Gen. Sam Houston, whom he praised.

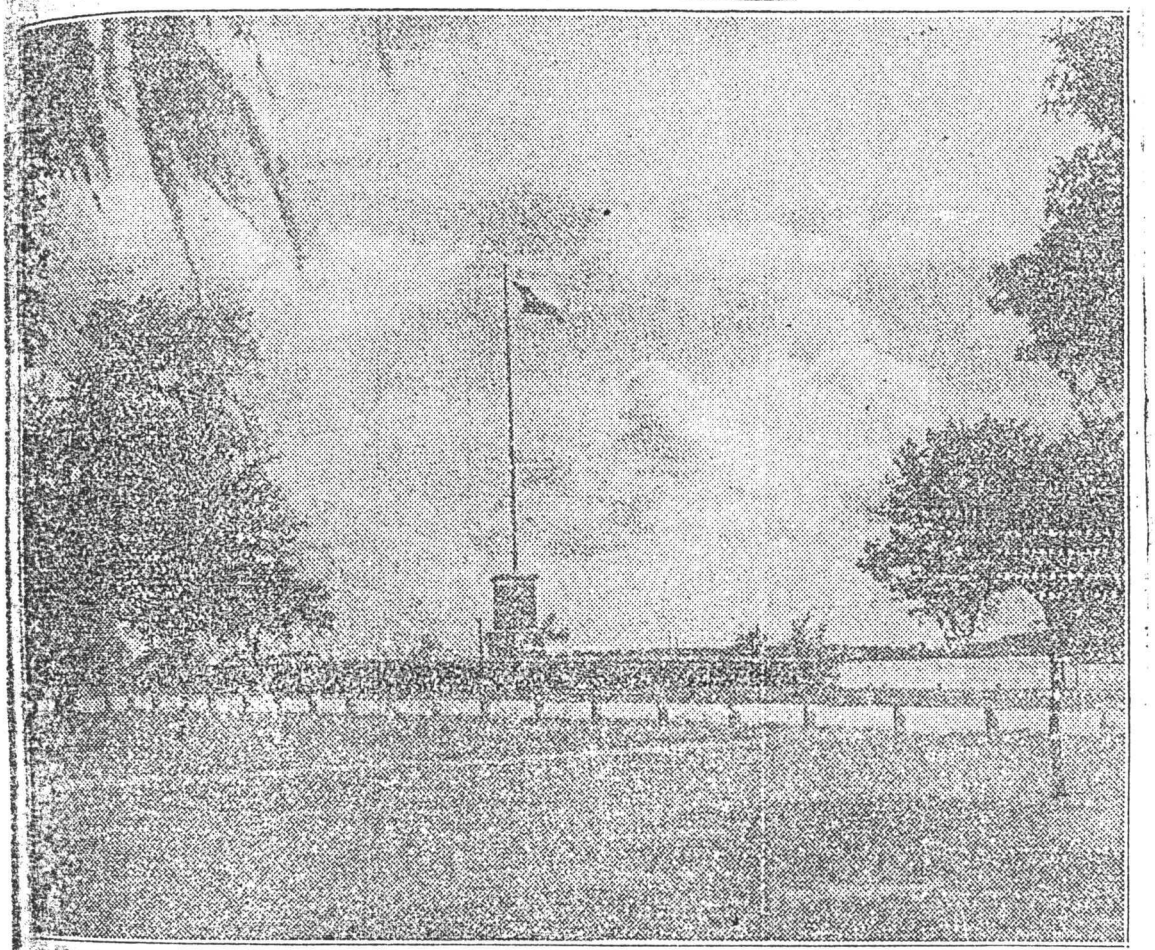
A. S. Koehler, representing the young men's division of the Chamber of Commerce, presented prizes to winners of the essay contest sponsored by the Daughters of the Republic in the junior and senior high schools on the subject, "The Life of Mirabeau B. Lamar."

Before announcing the winners, Mr. Koehler introduced Mrs. E. H. J. Andrews, granddaughter of Lamar.

In the senior high school division winners were Miss Patricia McElgunn of Incarnate Word Academy, first prize; Miss Lorena Frank of Incarnate Word Acad-

Dallas News. 4/30/33

Historic Shrine of Texas—San Jacinto Battlefield



One of the most interesting historic shrines in the State and a favorite resort of the tourists is the San Jacinto Battlefield, where, on April 21, 1836, Texas won its independence from Mexico. The old battleground, about twenty miles southeast of Houston, where Buffalo Bayou and the San Jacinto River meet, is now a State park, easily accessible over perhaps a dozen major highways that lead into Houston. These include the famous U. S. Highway No. 75, which extends from Galveston to the Canadian border; U. S. Highway No. 90, running from Del Rio through Lake Charles and New Orleans; State Highway No. 6, extending to the north through Waco; State Highway No. 35, running to the northeast through Lufkin, and State Highway No. 96, which extends to the south to Pharr.

There is little to remind the visitor of the bloody conflict of nearly a century ago. Giant oaks, covered with Spanish moss, shade the well-kept terrain; granite markers indicate the points of interest; perfectly surfaced shell roads network the entire area; the swampy bayou of old has been widened and deepened into a ship channel that now serves as an important artery of commerce.

It was at San Jacinto that Gen. Sam Houston, leading of force of less than 800 Texans, completely routed more than 1,500 trained Mexican soldiers under Santa Anna. Houston lost eight men. Santa Anna's casualties were 630 killed, 208 wounded and 730 taken prisoner.

TWO LIVING WIDOWS OF VETERANS OF BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO ARE FOUND

Hou. 8/13/34

L. W. (Lou) Kemp of Houston, an outstanding member of the Texas historical board, performs a notable public service in seeking out early Texas heroes sleeping in unmarked graves in weed-grown and hog-rooted cemeteries in the sticks, and disinterring and reburying them with fitting ceremonies in the State Cemetery at Austin. He is also the No. 1 authority on the battle of San Jacinto and the men who fought it.

Texas historians, digging among the crumbled ruins of the past for forgotten facts, had thought that a few aged sons and daughters of San Jacinto battle heroes were the nearest related surviving links. Consequently it was big news when, last December, Lou Kemp discovered that in Rochester, N. Y., still lives the widow of a San Jacinto veteran. She is Mrs. Mary M. Price, 90, and her husband was Hardy W. B. Price, a member of Benjamin F. Bryant's company of 1836.

But that is news no longer. Lately the Abilene Reporter-News has not only found—and interviewed—another San Jacinto widow, but found her in West Texas. She is Mrs. Mary Catherine Berry, living five miles south of Baird. Her husband, Andrew Jackson Berry, lived until 1899.

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To Texas in 1828.

Mr. Berry was an Indianan, born May 16, 1816. He came to Texas in 1828 with his parents, and in the Comptroller's Military Service Record No. 1041 it is certified that he served in the Mina (Bastrop) Volunteers as a private from February 28 to June 1, 1836. The company was commanded by Capt. Jesse Billingsley and nearly all the men in it were from what is now Bastrop County, then called Mina. The company was with Sam Houston at the defeat and capture of Santa Anna, the engagement that won Texas for the Anglo-Saxon.

Berry was then 19. In 1838, while still unmarried, he was issued a headright certificate by the Washington County board for one-third of a league of land (1470 acres), for having served three months in the Texan army. If he had been married the grant would have been for a league and a labor, or 4586 acres. He moved to Burleson County, married his first wife, had several children. On July 29, 1847 (so runs the Record) he was issued Donation Certificate No. 39 for 640 acres of land for having fought at San Jacinto.

The Civil War came along. Berry enlisted in 1861. By then he was a man of 45. He served the full four years, reaching captain's rank. After the war he took his family to Williamson County, where his father, John Berry, had settled when the family emigrated to Texas in 1828 under the Mexican flag. John Berry lived on Berry's Creek and operated a grist mill with water power.

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Second Marriage.

The present Mrs. Berry enters the story here. She was a native of Hempstead County, Arkansas, born August 29, 1853, and had been brought to Texas as an infant of two years, her father settling in Robertson County. In 1871, a girl of 18, she made a fateful visit to the John Berry family in Williamson County. There she met Andrew Jackson Berry. He had been a widower for seven years; had grown children; was even a grandfather in his mid-50's.

"We were soon married," Mrs. Berry said to her interviewer the other day. "We stayed in Williamson County for four years, until it began to settle up. My husband never did like to be crowded, so we moved westward to Lampasas County. But that section began to settle up, too, and so we moved west again. We landed in Callahan County May 25, 1881, a short time after the Texas and Pacific Railroad killed Belle Plains, the county seat, by building through what is now Baird. We settled right on this place—it's two sections—and have never had any other home in the county. It was 53 years ago that we came here, and this month, August 29, I will celebrate my eighty-first birthday."

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Didn't Profit From Land.

Mr. Berry did not profit from the headrights granted him. In fact, says his widow, he was tricked out of them. He paid hard cash for his Callahan County ranch, $2.50 per acre. The price was high for the time, a half-century ago, but the land is productive—sandy, well timbered with scrub oak, with ample water near the surface. Berry picked wisely. From the nearby hills he hauled rock for his home, a story and a half structure. Said Mrs. Berry: "It gave way on us four years ago, and we built this house," a sturdy frame bungalow.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Berry, of whom seven are still living. Three are in Baird: Bob and Ode Berry and Mrs. Fannie Murphy. Another, Harry Berry, lives at Clyde. Another is Mrs. Pearl Gaines of Abilene. Two other sons, George Berry, 60, and Grover Berry, 45, live on the ranch with their mother.

"I don't know a great deal about early Texas history, since Texas had joined the Union before I was born," said Mrs. Berry. "My husband did not talk much about the early days—he was not a talkative man—but sometimes he told us little things about San Jacinto and Sam Houston and Santa Anna, and about his brothers."

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Thrilling Experience.

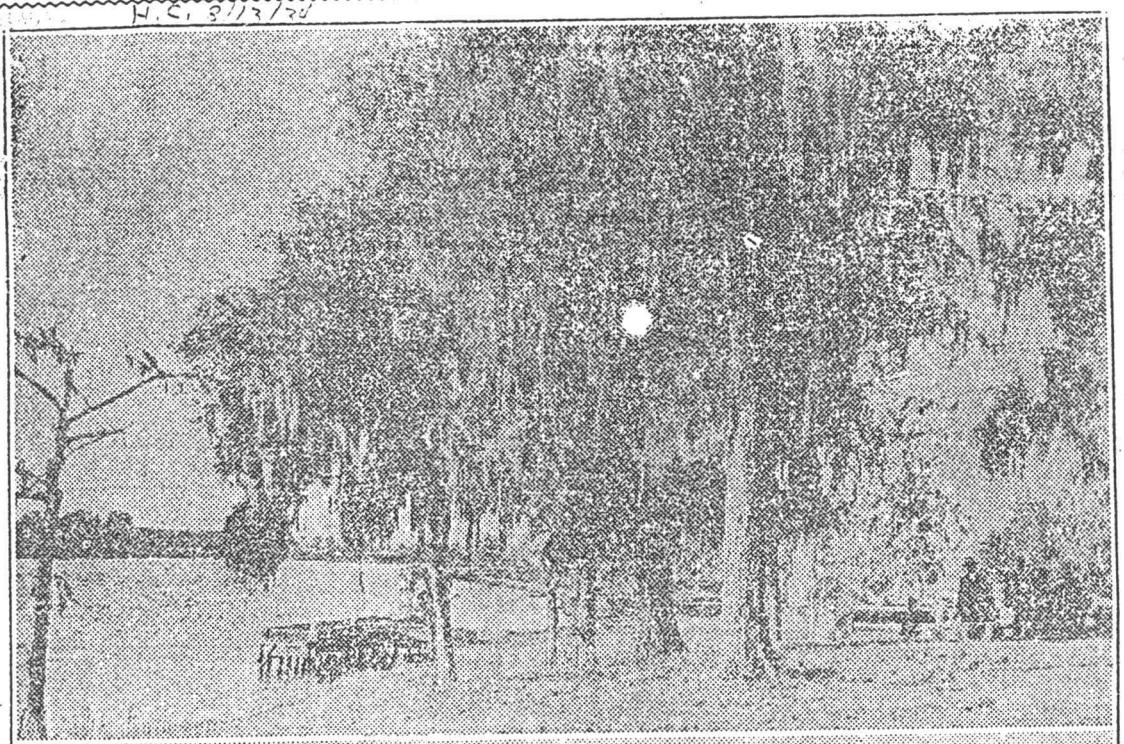
They were John Bate and Joseph Berry. Bate's experiences were even more thrilling than Andrew's for he was in the tragic Mier expedition—captured at Salado, drew a white instead of a black bean, and therefore escaped death before a Mexican firing squad. Joseph was killed at Mier, December 25, 1842—Christmas Day—but rather prosaically. He fell into a ravine. Bate was three years older than Andrew, born in Indiana May 8, 1813. In the Comptroller's Military Service Record No. 1750 it is certified that he served for 50 days in the permanent volunteer company (the Texas "regular army") under Capt. Robert M. Williamson, famed in history as "Three-Legged Willie." Bate went into the Mina Volunteers under Captain Billingley with Andrew. He did not actually fight at San Jacinto, but only because he had been detailed to guard baggage at Sam Houston's camp near Harrisburg. He, too, moved west after the civil war, settling at Mason where he died December 20, 1891.

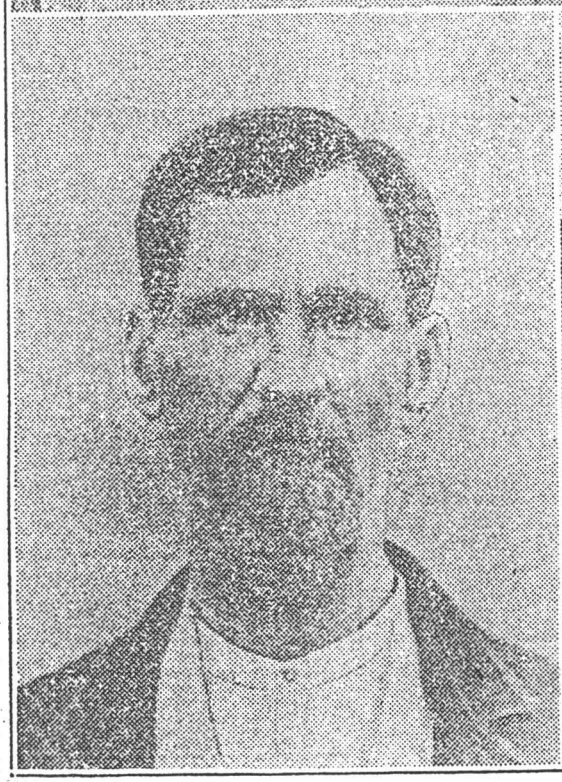
Says Mrs. Andrew J. Berry, "Bate's wife is still living in Mason County." That will be another interesting story, interviewing Mrs. Bate Berry.

Andrew Jackson Berry was not the last San Jacinto veteran to die. That honor fell to Alonzo Steele. Mr. Berry died July 31, 1899, in Baird, succumbing to injuries received when his team ran away with him.

LIVING LINK WITH CENTURY-OLD BATTLE

N.C. 8/13/28





Scene of the San Jacinto Battleground, and photos of one who fought with the Texas forces in that battle, and his wife. He was Andrew Jackson Berry, who came to Texas in 1828 and died in Callahan County in 1899. She is Mrs. Mary Catherine Berry, who will be 81 on August 29, resident of Callahan County. The photograph of Mrs. Berry was made at her home, that of Mr. Berry from a portrait there. (All photos by J. W. Farmer Studio, Baird.)

n Jacinto Fought 99 Years Ago

oday Rated 16th Decisive Battle in History

Beaumont 4/21/1935

By DEAN TEVIS

NINETY-NINE years ago today—while the tiny settlement of Beaumont, swelled to several hundred by the refugees of the Runaway Scrape, held its ear anxiously to the ground—Gen. Sam Houston of the Texas army put over a little job in 20 minutes in Harris County on the Plain of St. Hyacinth and Texas became the junior republic of the North American continent.

It was the "grand slam" of a game he had been playing with the Napoleon of the West, General Santa Anna, president of Mexico, for several days.

He waited until mid-afternoon. The Mexican leader and his officers in their marques, and the men themselves, were enjoying their siesta on the low sloping hillside, which was to become sacred to Texas.

A Musician Plays

Then while a musician played the music of Sir Thomas Moore's sentimental "Come to the Bower I Have Shelter for You,"—a number popular at afternoon teas,—Houston, Lamar, Rusk, Millard—the man who named both Beaumont and Jefferson county—and others, swept up the little hill from their camp under a colony of scrub oaks on the banks of Buffalo bayou.

In three or four minutes the ammunition for their long Mississippi Yeager rifles was gone.

They clubbed their guns.

They turned into wild men. They shouted, "Remember the Alamo, Remember Goliad," and in one-sixth the time it takes to write this story of the battle, they slew 600 Mexicans and had lost nine men killed. The score, then, was 600 to 9.

Some of the Odds

The Battle of San Jacinto has been called the 16th decisive battle of the world. There was not one uniform among the 1500 men of Houston's strange, tattered army of Americans.

Hardly two guns were alike. Not even every man had a gun. The army had two small cannon, the Twin Sisters, given it by the citizens of the city of Cincinnati.

Against this picture, look at the Mexicans. Beautifully uniformed. Plenty of food. The best of rifles of the day. Houston's men won their battle with food captured from the enemy the day before.

When it was all over the woman to whom the farm on which the battle was fought, complained to the suffering Houston "to take those stinking Mexicans off my land."

They pulled the teeth of the Mexican dead, which littered the ground, and shipped them east for dentists to use as false teeth.

It is all an almost unbelievable story—this battle which gave to the United States its largest and its richest commonwealth, and the most colorful story to be found on the continent.

He Cornered Himself

Houston, harrased all the way, put his army in what every military strategist says was the one worst possible position, cornered as he was on the little nose of land where the bayou was joined by the San Jacinto river. And then he himself had the only avenue of escape cut away—the bridge across famous little Vince's bayou.

It was audacious, but the former governor and congressman from Tennessee, Indian fighter and confidant of Old Hickory, was out to win or else—or else to lose everything.

For this was his one big stroke. He had pledged Texas to Andrew Jackson, and this afternoon he is out to get it.

He had made the remark that when Santa Anna was captured he "would be found crawling on his belly like a snake." He was!

Three women figured in the event. First Mrs. Dickinson, a refugee from the Alamo, who told Deaf Smith west of the Colorado of the Alamo's fall. Then the woman who berated the Texas general at Harrisburg for taking her ox-carts, and finally the woman who owned the battlefield, who lost all sight of the deeds of valor and thought only of her field littered with corrupting flesh.

Texas Is Marching

It is late March. The year is 1836. Texas has declared her independence at Washington on the Brazos. The Alamo with Travis, Bowie and Crockett has gone down in a blaze of glory. Brutal slaughter has occurred at Goliad . Fannin is no more.

Every rule of civilized warfare has been smashed, along with common decency for human kind . . . And a grumbling little armory of aliens, ragged, angry at the fact that they're retreating, outnumbered a great deal more than two to one—are marching — though they don't know it at first—to revenge their fellow adventurers in Texas. They're on one of tne greatest retreats the history of warfare has ever known.

With them are some of the men of Beaumont. Captain Harper of Beaumont has joined his little force from the Neches with that of Captain Logan of Liberty, and he's in the fight.

Capt. Harper of Beaumont

There's a special reason, among others, for his presence. Out on the prairie where now stands the San Jacinto building, the Edson hotel, the American National bank building, divided today by Pearl and Main and Orleans streets, are several hundred women and children camped in pitiful tents under the few trees.

It is spring, and the Neches is up, in some places out of its banks. They are 23 miles from the Sabine, the western border of the United States and safety.

There is one riskety ferry. The ferryman wants exorbitant prices to take them over. And then if they get across they must face marshland for a mile. Food is scarce.

They have come from as far west as Gonzales to escape the Mexican forces. Out there deserted are their new homes and all their hopes. They want to go back. But they want to live. Then one day a man on a horse rides furiously into the camp with the news of Houston's victory. He is the son of the first settler of Beaumont. And the bung blows out of the barrel of their joy as they prepare to make the return journey . . . back into the interior of Texas.

The reason you and I are here today is San Jacinto.

Purple Hyacinths

In Spanish, you know, the word is St. Hyacinth. One day when a Spanish friar paddled his canoe on the stream while he was looking for a site for a Franciscan mission, he was moved by the rich multitude of purple water hyacinths growing there. So he called it Rio San Jacinto, or the River of St. Hyacinth.

Santa Anna's Reasoning

Houston's action in retreating, says Louis Wiltz Kemp of Houston in "Heroes of San Jacinto," was interpreted by Santa Anna as an effort to avoid a conflict of arms. He struck out after Houston's army, leaving General Urrea, mogul of the slaughter at Goliad, and several division commanders, behind.

With Kemp, we'll go with Sam Houston of Tennessee, on the hard march eastward. We'll listen to the stomp, stomp, stomp of the soldiers' feet as they beat towards the San Jacinto, thinking for a time they're retreating to Nacogdoches.

Houston reached a point opposite Harrisburg (that was before the city of Houston had been placed on the map) on Buffalo bayou April 18. He sent Deaf Smith and Henry W. Karnes across the bayou in search of Mexican information. They came back with two couriers carrying dispatches from General Filisola to Santa Anna. This was the first Houston knew that Santa Anna was personally in command of the troops.

Houston's Great Address

Orders were at once given, continuing Kemp's excellent account, to cross the bayou. Houston addressed his men. He told them that they must prepare for battle. He himself gave them the cry of battle—the Alamo and Goliad. Instantly the words were shouted by all.

. . . It was the greatest pep meeting in all of Texas' long and picturesque days!

He scorched the air with account of Santa Anna's cruelties—the slaughter of Travis, of Crockett, of Bowie, of Fannin, and Ward and King. General Rusk followed the Raven with a strong appeal to the army.

"They are better equipped than we," he said, "and their numbers are greater; but God and right are with us and will give us the victory."

No Drums Beat

The order to march was given and the little band fell into line without the beat of a drum or the floating of banners. Few words were spoken.

There were dissenters, or had been, and once Houston dug a grave and told the men that the next deserter would occupy it.

They couldn't exactly see the great network of wide concrete highways, which would stretch across Texas. They couldn't have even bounded Texas, for the thing went, you might say, to the Pacific coast and stretched far north of its present boundaries.

They couldn't see the great cities, the vast future, but somehow you think they felt some of these things. . . and they marched with muscles taut. . .

Reaching a point, Kemp says, a few miles from where the supreme struggle was to be made, the army halted. The weary men took shelter under cover of a grove and slept a short time. General Houston rose at daybreak. Houston learned from his scouts that Santa Anna was marching up from New Washington to cross the river at Lynchburg.

Houston gave orders to march down the bayou. They had been cooking when the order was sharply given. When they reached the ferry—where you cross today on your way to the battlefield—they learned the Mexicans had not crossed. They took possession of a boat Santa Anna had constructed and moved it opposite their camp.

The First Skirmish

In a semi-circular grove on a margin of the prairie Houston posted his army. He was concealed by the timber. The men again began to cook, when word came through scouts that the Mexicans were in sight. . . Santa Anna's bugler sounded a charge. . . Santa Anna was surprised by a discharge of the Texans' pitiful artillery and was driven back. He retired to a swell in the prairie where he commenced the construction of breastworks.

"Tomorrow," Houston said, "I will conquer, slaughter and put to flight the entire Mexican army, and it shall not come me a dozen of my brave men."

He overestimated it by three.

But there was grumbling again the next day when Houston remained calm and immobile.

But we've arrived at the zero hour now.

Texas is going over the top, and in no small fashion. At 3 o'clock on the afternoon of April 21, 1836, the little Texas army waited the order to charge. The Mexican army was concealed behind breastworks. The President-General was asleep in his tent. His army had been reinforced—while Houston waited—by 500 men, well trained men, under General Cos. They were waiting to butcher the only remaining defenders of the republic.

The Twin Sisters

Before the order to charge was given the Twin Sisters, six pounders, had commenced a steady fire of grape and canister. With Houston's resonant order to "charge!" came the first cry of "Re-e-member the Alamo!" The effect was instantaneous. Texas moved forward swiftly, surely. Houston in the center of the column. By this time the Mexicans were drawn up in order. It did them little good. Mexican bullets went over the Texans' heads. Texas' fire was reserved till the men could pick their targets.

Then came a desperate hand-to-hand struggle all along the line . . . and the Mexicans, in the words of the street, simply couldn't take it. Kemp says they fought gravely, "but the vengeance which fired the Texans' breasts was fierce and relentless."

"The Texans chased the flying Mexicans far over the rolling prairie. The enemy's cavalry was well mounted. When they saw that further resistance was fruitless, spurring their fast horses, they directed their course toward's Vincent's bridge. To their horror they found the bridge gone. An axe in the hands of Deaf Smith had done that. Some of the horsemen rode into the stream, and became entangled in their trappings . . . Men and horses rolled together. Blood discolored the stream — dying gurgles mingled with the splashing of the waters."

"The Trouble Is Over"

General Houston glanced over the battlefield and said: "Gentlemen, I think now we are not likely to have any more trouble today."

General Rusk soon appeared and presented to General Houston his prisoner, General Almonte. It was, as Kemp writes, the finishing touch of a glorious day."

"The Texans' victory was convincing. Only three Texans lost their lives (in the actual battle) and 34 were wounded, six mortally. The Mexicans killed were 630. Of this number were one general, four colonels, three lieutenant colonels, five captains and 12 lieutenants. The wounded numbered 208."

Dead and Wounded

The killed or mortally wounded were Lemuel Stockton Blakey, Benjamin Rice Bingham, George A. Lamb, John C. Hale, Thomas Patton Fowle, Dr. William Junius Mittley, Mathias Cooper, Ashley R. Stephens and Olwyn J. Trask.

Santa Anna later said to one of his generals, "So sudden and fierce was the enemy's charge that the earth seemed to move and tremble."

There is one side of the story of San Jacinto which is not as well known as that concerning the valiant fighting.

That is the tale centering around "Tory hill,' 'as they called it, near the home of Lorenzo de Zavala, at Lynchburg across the bayou, and overlooking the battlefield. Here several hundred men stood waiting to see which way the tide of battle would go—which way the wind would turn. They were called, in that day, tories. There is no doubt that they would have gone with the Mexican side had Santa Anna won.

Who Did the Fighting

Some day the debunker will tackle the job of San Jacinto. He will tell you that among the fine names of the fighting men, each with his Bowie knife and some dressed in buckskins, were few of the established Texans.

The year 1836 was not exactly a new day in southeast Texas. Why ranches had been established for more than a decade and many men were living in the territory. A good many of them didn't choose to fight. The list is for all to read!

. . . At 3 o'clock this afternoon just pause a moment, and cast back ninety-nine years to the day when Sam Houston and his men, tired, tattered, put over a little job, a little game in the time of 20 minutes—and established the score of 600 to nine, for Texas.

Head Quarters near Harrisburg May 1st 1836

We the undersigned receipt of Capt. Wm. H. Logan two hundred and twenty three dollars in cash and one hundred and forty two dollars and twelve cents in goods it being only part of what was due the said Logan company of Texas Volunteers for services rendered in the battle of the 21st Inst. at San Jacinto

Frank R. Forbis
Cyrus W. Thompson
David G. Burton
Robt. L. Wheeler
Luke Bryan
Wm. Kimble
W. A. Smith
Wm. McLaughlin
Jno. McLaughlin
W. M. Smith
Thos. Norwood
Cornelius Dawson
R. H. Peebles
Wm. McGaskin
H. Williams
W. A. Williams
B. Harpers
L. Hawkins
L. Rudisell
Wm. Smith
Jno. Robinson
D. McDonald
Jno. Carr
L. H. Smith
Jacob Post

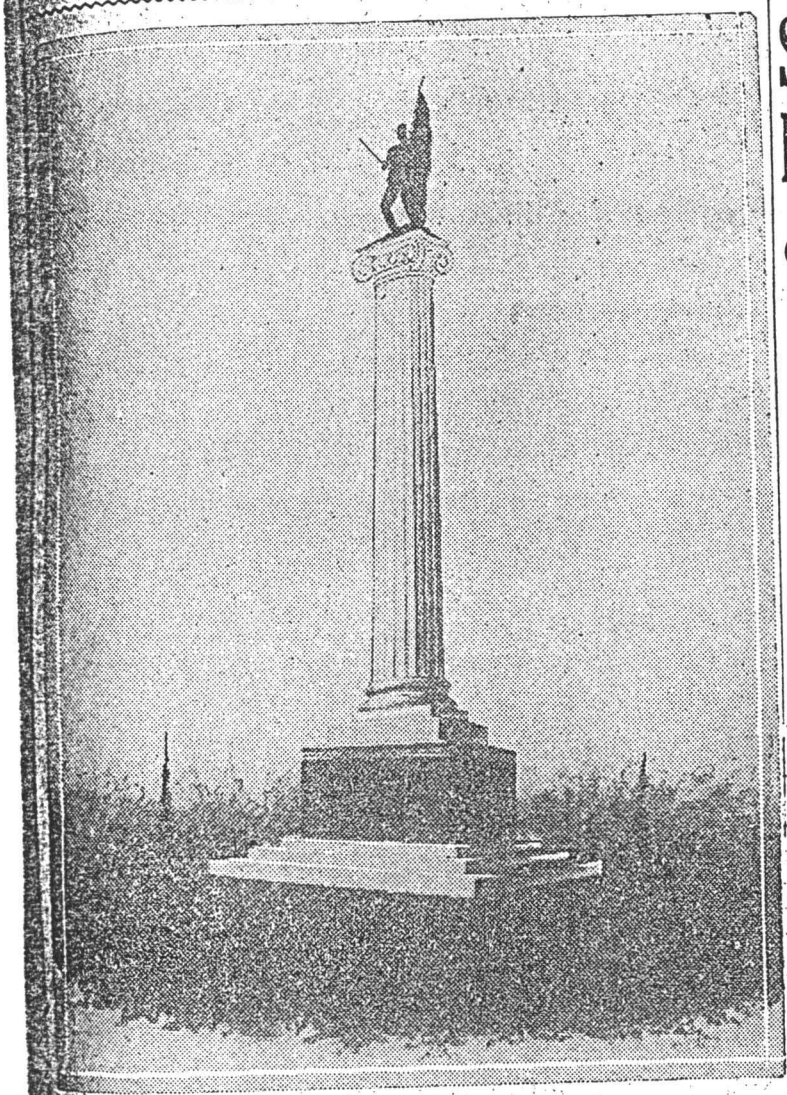
Edmund Lawson
Thos. Cox
Gabriel Peebles
M. Donovan
Eph. Lawson Robinson
James Cole
David Cole
Silas Bolinger
M. Pevehouse
L. Q. Dike
Thos. Pelmore
D. McGaskin
G. L. Brooks
John Nicholson
John Bledsoe
Lafayette Young
D. Henderson
John Patterson
Jesse Pierson
Michella Penelton

The receipt signed by Beaumont and Liberty men at San Jacinto for moneys and given them from the spoils of war at the Battle of San Jacinto.

C. L. Gilbert, president of [illegible]
Jacinto Chapter No. 1, Sons of the Republic of Texas; Mrs. Earl R. Ramsey, president of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and Robert B. Morris, president of the state organization of the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

Houston, who is 81 "but younger than some boys of 18."

BATTLEGROUND MEMORIAL



Architect's conception of the proposed $15,000 memorial shaft planned for the San Jacinto Battleground by Texas Masons in memory of the Texas pioneers. The shaft will be 42 feet high and is expected to be completed by April 1, 1936. Contract for construction of the base has already been let.

SAN JACINTO SHAFT BASE TO BE DEDICATED

Contract Let for First Unit of $15,000 Memorial to Pioneer Texans; Ceremony to Be April 22.

The contract has been awarded for the first unit of the proposed $15,000 marble shaft, 42 feet high, on the San Jacinto Battleground as a memorial to Texas pioneers who figured prominently in the early history of the state and who laid the foundation of Masonry in Texas, it was announced Saturday.

The memorial will be erected by the Masons of Texas. They have awarded the contract for the construction of the foundation and base to the Teich Monumental Works of Llano.

The foundation will be dedicated on April 22, 1935, while the completed memorial is expected to be dedicated on April 21, 1936, as a part of the celebration of the Texas Centennial.

Members of the Masonic fraternity, comprising the thirtieth district of Texas and embracing 17 lodges in Harris County, instigated the movement for the construction of the shaft a year ago and it was indorsed by the grand lodge of the state. Masons of Harris County will raise $5000 of the cost, while the grand lodge is expected to bear the remainder of the expense.

◇ ◇ ◇

Many Were Masons.

Many of the most distinguished men who figured in the Texas revolution were high ranking members of the Masonic fraternity and the purpose of the shaft is to "commemorate those pioneer Masons who carved an empire out of a wilderness and laid the foundation of Masonry in Texas," it was pointed out.

The foundation upon which the shaft will rest will be 12 feet square. On this foundation will rest a die, five feet square and five feet high, carved out of solid red Texas granite. Plans call for a 42-foot shaft, capped with a bronze figure of a nondescript soldier and a Texas flag.

On the east side of the die will be a bronze plate bearing the names of a selected list of early Texans who were Masons and who figured in the conflict for the establishment of Texas independence.

◇ ◇ ◇

PLANS OFFERED FOR MEMORIAL AT SAN JAICNTO

Shaft Idea Abandoned; City Seeks Museum, Auditorium and Open Air Coliseum

By United Press

AUSTIN, July 9,—Houston citizens yesterday presented their plans for a San Jacinto Memorial to the Centennial Advisory Board of Historians.

Plans for a shaft memorial, first mentioned, have been abandoned and a combination museum, auditorium and open air coliseum proposed.

The museum and small auditorium would be connected with each other and with the stage of the open air coliseum by collonades, with suitable places for statues and plaques.

A site on the battlefield, visible from passing steamers and from autos on the highway, has been selected. A proposed driveway will provide a vista to the river.

The museum, it was explained, is to house mementoes directly connected with the Battle of San Jacinto. A classic design has been approved.

Part to Be Delayed

It is not expected the $250,000 allocated from the state centennial appropriation will complete the project. The outdoor coliseum likely will have to be added later, unless the state appropriation is supplemented.

Presenting the plans were H. O. Clark Jr., R. B. Morris, Thomas Flaxman, R. J. Cummins, and Architects A. C. Finn, Maurice Sullivan, and J. W. Dehnert, all of Houston.

Meanwhile a large slice of nearly $8,000,000 worth of requests for $575,000 worth of Centennial funds was missing today because of a resolution adopted by control commission members yesterday.

The resolution declared not one dollar of the fund to aid local celebrations would be spent to purchase sites for monuments and markers at historic spots. That task, the commission said, belonged to the community in which the historic spot is located.

Another Surprise Given

The board furnished another surprise by announcing no allocations would be made before Oct. 1. Gonzales, one of the cities seeking state aid, has planned a "Lexington of Texas" celebration for Oct. 2.

Expenditure of the $500,000 state fund earmarked for advertising Texas' Centennial birthday party was vested in three men. They are Maj. Gen. John A. Hulen of Fort Worth, control commission member, Arthur Kramer of Dallas, and Roy Miller of Houston and Corpus Christi.

The commission adjourned without setting the date of their next meeting.

AT SAN JACINTO

BY EUGENE MILLIS.

4/21/35

It was here that Houston stood, and all his men
Stretched in a single line beneath the trees;
This bayou at our back was smaller then
(Before 'twas dug a channel to the seas).
On that small knoll (you note?) the cannon stood,
And over there, across the flowered field,
Just there beyond that rise, there was a wood,
And there lay Santa Anna half concealed.

It was a day like this . . . a spring like this . . .
The grass was flush, the trees intensely green,
The breeze was cool and gentle as a kiss;
A million blossoms gave the plain a sheen
Of gorgeous mottled beauty, lifting the heart
As magic music does, or sparkling eyes
Soft framed in golden curls. A master's art
(THE Master's, let us say) had filled the skies
With floating galleons of glistening white
Slow drifting on a sea of depthless blue;
There to our left, its rumpled waters bright
With dancing sunshine, the San Jacinto drew,
Full banked and deep, a sweeping boundary line
About the sleeping field, and to the bay.

It's hard to visualize in such a shrine
As this the murderous strife that broke that day.
At first the peaceful scene was scarce disturbed,
The Texans came like shadows from their wood,
Silent and slow, their hot impatience curbed
By a will more stern than theirs. Their long line stood
A moment like a mark across the plain
And then advanced without a sound. It's strange
That no one saw them come, that they could gain
To the very camp of their foe, guns brought in range,
Before a single bugle shrilled alarm.
That being done, they cast off caution's pall . . .
Shouting and raging like a tropic storm
They routed the indaver once for all.

Much has been written of what it meant.
The history of the world was changed, we're told;
The old but waning Latin power was spent
And Saxons given an empire to control.
I grant it all, except perhaps the view
That Texas Celts are Saxon, and their foe
Much else than Indian. That aside, it's true
That the brief hour in which the Texans struck their blow
Was pregnant with more seeds of destiny
Than any other of which old books can tell . . .
We who have the joy of liberty
And spacious lands, here won, will guard them well!

And yet, I think, this scene we view today
Brings thoughts of other things; these moss draped trees
Seem sentinels of ancient peace, and sway
To winds that come forever from the seas.
The river there is timeless, bearing its freight
Of water from a thousand spreading miles
All unconcerned as to puny man's estate,
Whether he lives his hour in tears or smiles.
These myriads of blossoms that carpet the plain
With royal colors, the high sun pouring its light
Through snowy clouds, the lilting refrain
Of happy songbirds, the drone of bees in flight . . .
Almost a hundred times this April scene
Has lived since that brief day so long ago
When armies clashed and soldiers stained the green
Of prairie grasses with their own blood's flow.

A hundred springs of peace, to one of war . . .
And ere man came, a thousand thousand springs!

I know we can not set a final bar
Against the battles and the slaughterings;
I may concede that Might has yet a role,
That men had better die than some things yield,
But this fair scene is singing to the soul:
God writes of peace on every battle field!

SAN JACINTO

GRAVES OF TEXAS SOLDIERS SOUGHT

BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE

SEPT. 15-35

Burial Places of 526 San Jacinto Heroes Located; Markers Suggested

INFORMATION FILE

Over a period of 14 years, the graves of soldiers and officers who participated in the battle of San Jacinto have been sought by L. W. Kemp of Houston, now chairman of the advisory board of Texas historians of the commission of control for the centennial celebration. Mr. Kemp has been able to ascertain when 526 of the participants died. Some of the graves have been located while others are still undiscovered.

It will be recommended that a marker be placed over each of these graves

Following, listed under the east Texas counties in which they are buried, are the names of San Jacinto veterans whom Mr. Kemp has traced to their deaths:

Trinity County

Trinity: William Earl, died at Pennington, January 6, 1873.

Rusk: Henry S. Chapman, d. 1847; Dimer W. Reaves, d. 1847; Robert W. Smith d. 1851, buried at Pleasant Hill cemetery; Jesse Walling, d. at Millville, 1866.

Sabine: Alfred Denton d. 1843; Dr. Robert Goodloe, d. October 20, 1879, in Sabinetown; William Pace.

Newton: Josephus Somerville Irvine, d. May 17, 1876.

San Augustine: David Brown, d. prior to the year 1847; James A. Chaffin, d. in 1879, buried in the Parker cemetery about five miles south of San Augustine; Hershel Corzine, killed by John Conner at San Augustine, June 10, 1840; William Fisher, d. 1841; Maj. Alexander Morton, d. 1893, buried in the Morton family cemetery, San Augustine; Edward Oswald Legrand, d. 1870, buried in the Graham cemetery, 12 miles south of San Augustine (he was a signer of the Texas declaration of independence); John Robbins, d. 1870.

Shelby County

Shelby: John Sanders, d. at Center, August 5, 1871, buried in Fairview cemetery.

Nacogdoches: Captain Hayden, who commanded the first company of the second regiment at San Jacinto, d. 1839; John Balch, d. 1900, buried at Cove Spring cemetery, 12 miles east of Nacogdoches; Thomas Y. Beauford, d. 1839; William M. Berryhill, d. 1842; Major John Forbes, d. June 2, 1880, buried in Oak Grove cemetery, Nacogdoches; Elias E. Hamilton, d. prior to October 20, 1840; David Rusk, d. September 1, 1877; Thomas Jefferson Rusk, a signer of the Texas declaration of independence, secretary of war, took his own life at Nacogdoches, July 29, 1857, buried in Oak Grove cemetery; Madison G. Whitaker, d. January 23, 1893, buried in the old North Church cemetery.

Liberty: Edward Thomas Branch, d. September 24, 1861, buried in the Branch family cemetery about a mile from Liberty; Luke O. Bryan, d. at Liberty in about 1862; Cornelius Devore, d. July 29, 1883; Franklin Hardin, d. in Liberty, April 20. 1878.

Jasper County

Jasper: Wilson C. Brown, d. March 19, 1876, buried in the cemetery at Jasper.

Jefferson: Michael J. Brake, d. 1837; Michael Peveto, d. 1838; David Scott, d. 1862; Hezekiah R. Williams, d. 1843.

Orange: Robert Benedict Russell, d. at Orange, November 30, 1880; David Choate, Jr., d. January 26, 1879, buried in old cemetery where town of Concord stood.

SAN JACINTO CENTENNIAL BODY ELECTS

2-10-36

Formed on Permanent Basis; Charter Obtained and Work Is Begun

INFORMATION FILE
San Jacinto

The San Jacinto Centennial Association, having obtained a charter from Austin, organized on a permanent basis and elected officers at a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce Wednesday. John C. Townes was elected president, Mrs. I. B. McFarland, secretary, W. S. Patton, treasurer and the following active vice presidents were named: Gus S. Wortham, Clarence R. Wharton, George A. Hill Jr., L. W. Kemp and H. O. Clarke Jr.

The president and active vice presidents are ex-officio members of the executive committee.

Jesse H. Jones was named honorary president. Nine honorary vice presidents were named and 13 foreign consuls were designated, these being the various consuls here representing foreign countries.

Sixty-Eight Directors

In the charter are the names of 68 directors. Those among them who attended Wednesday's meeting were R. Bruce Carter, George D. Wilson, E. E. Oberholtzer, W. B. Pyson, F. C. Elliott, Tobias Sakowitz, Jeff Barnette, W. W. Iverson, W. N. Blanton, Mr. Hill, E. J. Hogan, County Judge Ward, Chester H. Bryan, Norman Beard, Mrs. Charles Koenig, Thomas P. Converse, H. D. Templeton, G. E. Wood, R. B. Morris, W. E. Kendall, Mr. Patton, Mr. Kemp, Mrs. Erl R. Ramsey, Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, Rev. Clinton S. Quin, represented by Philip P. Werlein, Vincent Chicdo, A. D. Simpson, Mrs. McFarland, Maurice Sullivan and Mr. Townes.

The purpose of the organization is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Texas in 1936. Although the Centennial proper will be at Dallas, the scene of the battle near Houston that made Texas a republic will be one of the principal points of interest.

Money Appropriated

The state has appropriated $250,000 and the Federal Government $400,000 to build a memorial building at San Jacinto Battleground and more money is expected from the Government's work relief program.

"We are now ready to get down to work," Mr. Townes told the group. "We haven't any time to lose."

The executive committee named is composed of Messrs. Wilson, Bryan, Morris, Barnette, Patton, Beard, Tom Flaxman and Mrs. McFarland.

A resolution was adopted asking that all Centennial activities be made a part of this association's activities.

The Resolution

The resolution follows:

"Whereas, it is contemplated that in the celebration of the Texas Centennial many historical events will be celebrated in Harris County, and the San Jacinto Centennial Association of Houston, desiring to eliminate a duplication of efforts and of funds in these worthy objectives, requests that all patriotic societies, corporations and individuals submit to it their proposed plans before passing them on to the public, and the public is requested that before contributing either time or funds for such plans to contact this organization and be first assured of the approval of the San Jacinto Centennial Association of the prospective projects."

A San Jacinto Memorial Project Committee, of which Mr. Clarke is chairman, was named. Mr. Wharton was made chairman of the historical committee. Mr. Barnette was appointed chairman of the publicity committee. Members of this committee are G.A. Mabry, P. C. Franke Jr., J. H. Grant, Kern Tips, Harry Grier, Frank Smith, Max Jacobs, William C. Repass and Ed Pooley.

SAN JACINTO'S OBSERVANCE IN 1936 PLANNED

H.C. S. 9/29/1935

Centennial Association Will Announce Dates and Exact Nature of Celebration Later.

The first business transaction of the executive committee of the newly formed San Jacinto Centennial Association was to announce that an extended observance would be held here, including the date of April 21, 1936.

The exact nature and the length of this observance will be determined at a later date, the committee announced.

It was further decided that other observances throughout the centennial year would be held in commemoration of various dates of historical significance.

Judge John C. Townes, president of this group, which has been chartered by the secretary of state for the purpose of promoting and staging Houston Centennial observances during 1936, announced the appointment of two committees:

Committee on acquisition and housing of historical documents and relics: J. C. McVea, chairman; Mrs. Claire Allen Edbon, J. S. Cullinan, George H. Hill, Jr., Will Kendall, Birdsall Briscoe, Randolph Bryan, L. W. Kemp, R. B. Morris, Lewis Fisher, Charles Shearn, Jr., A. E. Clarkson, Judge Charles Ashe, Miss Ima Hogg, Everett de Golyer, Herbert Godwin, Franklin Williams, H. M. Richter, Mrs. Roy Sewell, Mrs. T. F. White, Mrs. George Berlet, Mrs. A. S. Foote, Mrs. Eugene Truett Harris, Mrs. John Milby.

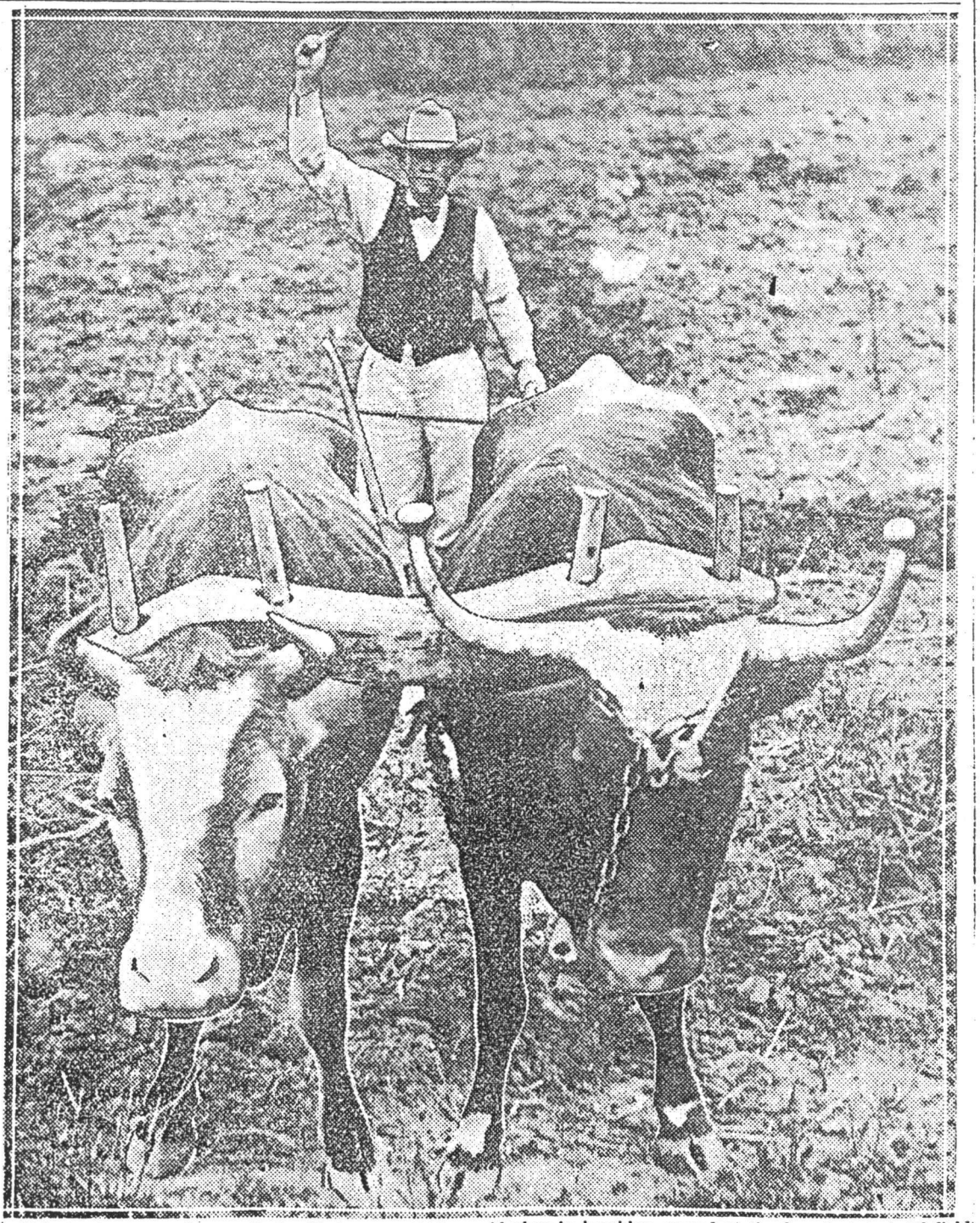
Beautification committee: C. O. Brock, chairman; Mrs. S. M. McAshan, Mrs. Frank L. Barnes, Mrs. L. O. Jarrell, Jim Douglas, W. S. Murdock, Charles A. Pace, W. A. Regnaud, J. M. Heiser, Jr., Mrs. Cleveland Sewell, Mrs. L. Tuffly, Mrs. E. T. Chew, Mrs. Homer C. Hewitt, Mrs. Charles Shearn, Jr., Mrs. Allen B. Hannay, Mrs. A. M. Downs, Mrs. Frank Tetzlaff, Mrs. Randolph Bryan, Mrs. Herman Johnson, Mrs. H. C. Haug, Mrs. R. B. McKinney, T. H. Tabony, Mrs. F. L. Cooper, Mrs. F. E. Illsley, Mrs. Roy M. Fullerton, Mrs. J. B. Yoakum, Mrs. J. H. Cobusch, Mrs. Edward F. Lyon, Mrs. Henry Rochford, Mrs. John Olson, Mrs. [illegible] Schaeffer, Mrs. E. C. Polka, Mrs. Frank Cox; Mrs. E. S. Barnette, Highland; Mrs. J. I. Ledbetter, Goose Creek; Mrs. Hilda Fischer, Fairbanks; Mrs. W. G. Norwood, Humble; Mrs. G. J. Palmer, La Porte; Mrs. J. A. Wessendorf, Richmond; Mrs. Haucher, El Campo; Mrs. M. L. McGannon, Conroe; Mrs. Boyd McCrary, Sugar Land; Mrs. V. K. Rogan, Baytown; Mrs. G. Schweizerhoff, Tomball.

The San Jacinto Centennial Association will officially open its office on the eighth floor, Chamber of Commerce Building, Monday.

Members of the executive committee, in addition to the president, Maj. John C. Townes, are: George D. Wilson, chairman; Mrs. I. B. McFarland, secretary; Chester H. Bryan, Norman H. Beard, R. B. Morris, Tom Flaxman, Jeff Barnette and William S. Patton.

Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and publisher of The Chronicle, visiting with Col. Andrew Jackson Houston at the San Jacinto Battleground Park Tuesday afternoon. Colonel Houston is pointing out some of the historical spots in the park. Mr. Jones was instrumental in getting a large allotment of Texas Centennial funds for improvement of the park.

WILL PLOW $1,000,000 FURROW



This is the team of oxen that will draw a 100-year-old plow in breaking ground at the San Jacinto battlefield today for the $1,000,000 memorial building and shaft commemorating the Texas heroes who wrested Texas from Mexico on April 21, 1836. E. H. Marks, owner of the L-H7 ranch at Barker, is shown driving the team of seven-year-old beasts. By name the oxen are "Bald," left, and "Spot," right. —Staff Photo by Jack Miller.

Honor Paid San Jacinto Heroes as Soil Is Turned For Colossal Memorial

Chronicle 10-23-35

Jones Breaks Ancient Plow In Ceremony

Jesse H. Jones, stalwart chairman of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, Friday broke the plow which broke the ground for a majestic monument at the San Jacinto battlefield, where Texas won its independence from Mexico nearly 100 years ago.

Andrew Jackson Houston, 81, son of General Sam Houston, the commander at San Jacinto, turned the first earth, then relinquished the handles of the ancient wooden plow to the RFC chairman. Mr. Jones took a firm grip and shouted, "Let's go!" to the oxen. The point bit too deeply into the hard ground, shattering the wooden implement.

The plow, owned by Tom O. Gaston of Dallas, was used as far back as 1763. It was not known whether Gaston would seek an RFC loan to restore his prized possession.

Thousands Attend Rites At Shaft Site

Ghosts of Leaders Charge Again Over Prairie.

By ED KILMAN.

In the pageantry of stirring oratory the unparalleled drama of San Jacinto battle was re-enacted before a large crowd Friday afternoon on the battleground.

The occasion was the breaking of ground for the colossal memorial building and shaft soon to be reared on the site of the bloody conflict, as a monument to commemorate through the ages the heroism of those rugged pioneers who risked their lives there and won the amazing victory that freed Texas from Mexican despotism.

Worthy Shaft Planned.

A full century will have elapsed before a fitting monument is erected to the heroes of San Jacinto, but when it is built it will be one worthy of their glorious achievement—a sheer tapering shaft piercing the heavens like a straight sword of triumph, towering 564 feet, which is higher than the Washington monument, and surmounted by the emblem of Texas, a lone star.

Staged on an eminence in the middle of the battlefield, overlooking the rolling wooded country in its green spring dress, the ship channel and the marshes that played their part in the mortal struggle of April 21, 1836, the ground-breaking exercises were significant and impressive. In the patriotic speeches recounting the battle the ghosts of Sam Houston, Lamar, Sherman, Burleson, Wharton and their ragged compatriots charged again over the prairie, mowing down the surprised Mexican regulars with their avenging cries of "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!"

Houston's Son Speaks.

The venerable Colonel Andrew Jackson Houston, only living son of General Sam Houston, who led the victorious Texans, conjured up visions of his great father, as he recited in a ringing voice the highlights of the momentous fight.

Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, whose efforts and influence made such a monument possible, in his address stirred in his hearers a consciousness of the spiritual significance of the San Jacinto victory, as well as the sacrifices of the Alamo and Goliad which contributed to its importance.

Throng Stirred By Patriotic Ceremonies

Band Music Reminds of Challenge H rled to Mexicans.

By MELBA V. NEWTON.

Tears fell, but laughter was quick to follow.

This, briefly, is the case history of most human emotions dealing with subjects just a shade sentimental.

And many a spirited Texan ran true to form at the ground breaking ceremonies at the San Jacinto battlefield Friday.

For sentiment, which they, in common with the rest of humanity, keep covered as carefully as spinsterly knees, broke out like measles during the brief hour.

"Will You Come to the Bower," which every good Texan knows, without being reminded, was the battle invitation of San Jacinto heroes to the Mexicans, laid a hand of deep, touched silence on those present. While the band played it, those present thought back, 100 years when—played on a fife, with drum accompaniment—it was a march militant that stirred rarely equalled heroism.

An elderly woman touched her eyes time after time with a white-gloved hand, and finally opened her purse for a crisp square handkerchief. She was Mrs. Lucy Sherman Craig, the only living daughter of General Sidney Sherman, whom history credits with having put into the mouths of his command the famous battle cry of "Remember Goliad! Remember the Alamo!" Said she:

"I have heard my father tell of the singing of that song, many a time. But I never heard him sing it. Because, he was not a singing man."

Throughout the entire ceremonies, a great silence held the crowd, although there were small children there. Voices of the speakers cut into the air of the calm high noon, sabre clean, and held all ages. Then the last speech came to a finish, and the "lid was off."

Colonel A. J. Houston was chipper enough to belie, strongly, his 81 years as he moved to the spot where the ground was to be broken.

Said his daughters, "Why did the young man take our father's arm a while ago? He is just as sprightly as anyone. He doesn't really need anybody to assist him in getting about."

As Colonel Houston put his hands to the plow, they were asked if their father had ever actually plowed before. "Never," they agreed. No, they didn't believe their grandfather, Sam Houston, ever plowed, either. "Despite the fact he told all his men to go home and plant corn."

Present for the occasion was Mrs. J. G. Tod, daughter of a pioneer, Ritson (Jawbone) Morris, who settled on an early claim at Seabrook. Because there were not enough horses for everybody, Morris came on foot to Texas, from Mississippi, with all his slaves. To keep up their spirit, every night he took out his "fiddle" and played, while they sang a popular song of the day:

"Walk, Jawbone, walk;
"Talk, Jawbone, talk;
"Come, let us dance . . . ."

Mrs. John O. White and Mrs. W. Simmons, sisters, said they were not descendants of San Jacinto heroes, but native-born Texans, and "proud of it."

CATHOLICS' CENTENNIAL CHIEFS NAMED

H.C. Jan. 26/36

Committee Chairmen Expect 100,000 at Church's Celebration at Battleground on April 21.

Committee chairmen have been named to arrange for the Catholic Centennial celebration April 21 at San Jacinto Battleground, commemorating the 100th anniversary of that historic battle.

The committee chairmen were named by Robert H. Kelley, Houston attorney and chairman of the executive committee in charge of the celebration which is expected to attract 100,000 persons to the battleground on that morning.

Dignitaries from all over the United States, including 50 bishops and archbishops and 500 priests, are to attend.

Announcement of tentative plans for the celebration also were made by Mr. Kelley.

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Invite U. S. and State Officials.

"In addition to the public officials of the United States, Texas and adjoining states, we shall invite the governors and attorney generals of all the states and the editors of all the principal papers in the country, secular and denominational," said Mr. Kelley. "We also shall invite prominent clergymen of other denominations, and distinguished private citizens throughout the country.

"We figure on a minimum attendance of 50,000 persons at the ceremony, and are hoping to have 100,000 present. I believe that 25,000 from Houston alone will be present."

A personal escort will be assigned to each visiting prelate of the Catholic church. It will be the duty of this escort (a Houston citizen) to anticipate the needs and wishes of the dignitary and see that his wants are filled.

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Mammoth Reception.

A mammoth reception for the visiting dignitaries will be held the night of April 20 in the City Auditorium. Governor James V. Allred on Saturday accepted an invitation to welcome the visitors to Texas.

Following the celebration of the military field mass on April 21, luncheon will be served the visiting dignitaries at the San Jacinto Inn.

The field mass will be celebrated by Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, archbishop of New Orleans, and the sermon will be preached by Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, bishop of Los Angeles. Native Texas priests will assist at the mass. Five thousand Catholic school children will form the flag of Texas which, during the ceremony, will be merged into the flag of the United States.

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Historical Reasons.

The New Orleans prelate was selected to participate in the ceremony because of the important part Louisiana had in Texas' fight for independence. The Los Angeles bishop was selected because Texas' successful fight for independence resulted in annexation of the California area to the United States.

All committee chairmen are members of the executive committee in charge of arrangements for the celebration. In addition, several other prominent citizens of the state are on the committee. Most Rev. C. E. Byrne, bishop of Galveston, appointed Mr. Kelley chairman of the committee. Col. A. J. Houston of La Porte, only living son of Gen. Sam Houston, is honorary chairman of the executive committee. Other members of the committee include: Senator L. J. Sulak of La Grange, J. E. Angley of Palestine, Joseph A. O'Reilly of Austin, John L. Darrouszet of Galveston, Harry Phelan of Beaumont, Christy S. Flanagan, Sr., of Port Arthur, John F. Sheehy of Waco, Gus Wortham, John R. Young and J. R. Mulvey of Houston.

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Others in Charge.

Mrs. Charles I. Stubbs of Galveston is chairman of the committee which will arrange for attendance of school children. Rev. M. S. Chataignon of Galveston, senior chaplain of the officers reserve corps of the United States army and only minister with the rank of colonel in the reserve, will arrange for attendance of military and naval units.

Charles A. Perlitz, Sr., of Houston will arrange for attendance of Catholic societies of the state. The invitations committee is headed by Governor Allred as honorary chairman and Thomas Kehoe of Houston as active chairman. T. G. Kenney is chairman of the publicity committee. Raymond Pearson is chairman of the transportation and parking committee.

Mrs. Lucian R. Carroll of Houston is chairman of the reception committee. It has two jobs—to organize a big public reception for the visitors the night of April 21 at the City Auditorium, and to arrange a luncheon at San Jacinto Inn immediately after the field mass.

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Finance Committee.

T. J. Donoghue of Houston is chairman of the finance committee. George Strake, local oil millionaire, is actively in charge of the finance drive in Houston. Will E. Kendall is chairman of the committee on grounds and ground facilities. He is a member of the San Jacinto Park board and a descendant of General Sherman, a hero of San Jacinto.

Very Rev. George A. Welhelm, pastor of Holy Name Church and dean of the Catholic clergy, is chairman of the committee on rituals and ceremonies, having been appointed by Bishop Byrne. He is also a member of the reception committee. Ralph V. Haurahan, president of the Humble Pipe Line Company, is chairman of the entertainment committee, and Peter A. Angenend is chairman of the music committee.

5000 NOTABLES INVITED TO CELEBRATION

Hc 3/18/36

Engraved Cards Bearing Pictures of Six Texas Flags and Seal of State Are Mailed.

Five thousand notables were mailed invitations Wednesday to attend the Catholic Centennial celebration April 21 at San Jacinto Battleground, commemorating the 100th anniversary of that historic battle. The invitations were mailed by Robert H. Kelley, general chairman of the Catholic celebration.

The engraved cards carried an invitation from the state and Bishop C. E. Byrne of Galveston.

At the top of the general Centennial invitation folder are the six flags of Texas in colors and the seal of the state. The Catholic celebration invitation card carries the seal of the state at the top right corner and the seal of the bishop at the top left corner.

The general Centennial invitation folder is worded as follows:

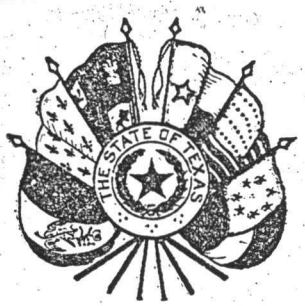
"The state of Texas requests the honor of your presence on San Jacinto Battleground near Houston on April 21, 1936, the 100th anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto, where the embattled pioneers of Texas secured for us with their valor the blessings of civil and religious liberty."

A card announcing the many celebrations to be held there that day is inclosed. This card also lists Centennial celebrations featured for Houston and vicinity from April 13 to December.

The special invitation to the Catholic field mass reads as follows:

"The State of Texas joins Most Rev. Christopher E. Byrne, D. D., bishop of Galveston, in requesting the honor of your presence at a solemn military field mass to be celebrated by Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummell, D. D., archbishop of New Orleans, on San Jacinto Battlefield at 10:30 o'clock on the morning of April 21, 1936, in thanksgiving for a century of civil and religious freedom. Sermon by Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, D.D., mishop of Los Angeles."

INVITATION TO CELEBRATION



The State of Texas

requests the honor of your presence

on

San Jacinto Battlefield

near Houston

on the

twenty-first day of April nineteen hundred and thirty-six

The One Hundredth Anniversary

of the

Battle of San Jacinto

where the embattled pioneers of Texas secured for us

with their valor the blessings of civil and religious liberty

Above is a copy of the San Jacinto Battlefield celebration invitation mailed by the Catholic Church to 5000 dignitaries of the world.

San Jacinto

Eyes of Nation Focused On Historic San Jacinto Memorial Rites Today

ON FILE

Ancient Plow To Turn Soil For Tower

Address by Jones to Top Speaking Program.

Post - 3-27-36

By ED KILMAN.

Through soil once torn by shot and shell, and drenched with human blood, a 100-year-old plow drawn by a yoke of oxen will cleave Friday afternoon, breaking ground for the $1,000,000 memorial building and shaft to be erected on the battlefield of San Jacinto.

In the ceremonies attending the event, the voices of modern-day orators will fill the air of this birthplace of Texas freedom, rent a century ago by the battlecries of the heroes whose valor the magnificent memorial is to commemorate.

"Remember the Alamo!"

"Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" shouted Houston, Lamar, Sherman, Burleson, Deaf Smith and other avenging Texas warriors as they swept through the Mexican lines with the force and deadliness of a tornado. And the theme and sentiment of the speeches Friday afternoon, as of the great memorial itself, will be to remember these immortal heroes of San Jacinto as long as there is a Texas.

If the weather is fair, a crowd of perhaps 10,000 is expected to gather at San Jacinto battlefield park for the ground-breaking program. Beginning at 1 p. m., the ceremonies will be brief, lasting only half an hour—scarcely longer than it took General Houston and his 900-odd followers to destroy the proud army of Santa Ana on that balmy afternoon of April 21, 1836.

Highly Interesting Program.

But a highly interesting program is promised; one interesting enough to the whole nation to be broadcast over the network of the National Broadcasting company. Radio station KPRC of The Houston Post will handle it here. Loud speakers will make the proceedings clearly audible throughout the park.

The San Jacinto Centennial association is sponsoring the ground-breaking program. John C. Townes, president of the association, will introduce the speakers.

Topping the speaking program will be an address by Jesse H. Jones of Houston, whose influence and efforts in obtaining most of the money for the San Jacinto memorial from the federal Texas Centennial fund made such a monument to the decisive battle of Texas independence possible.

Mainspring of Move.

Mr. Jones was a mainspring of the original Texas Centennial movement, begun more than a decade ago. And since then he has been one of its most enthusiastic supporters. He is now honorary president of the San Jacinto association. His position of leadership in Texas affairs, as well as in the national government as chairman of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, has been likened to that of Sam Houston himself.

Mr. Jones came from Washington to attend the ground-breaking ceremonies. In his speech he will discuss the memorial shaft.

Another distinguished speaker will be Colonel Andrew Jackson Houston, the venerable son and only surviving child of the great victor of San Jacinto. Colonel Houston will speak on the Texas army of 1836 and the battle of San Jacinto.

Woodul to Speak.

Lieutenant Governor Walter F. Woodul of Houston, chairman of the state Centennial commission of control, will open the speaking program with a brief address on the progress and prospects of the Centennial celebrations in Texas. Governor Woodul was instrumental in obtaining the $250,000 allocation from the state Centennial appropriation for a San Jacinto memorial.

Music for the occasion will be furnished by the Sixty-ninth coast artillery band from Fort Crockett, Galveston, under direction of Warrant Officer James E. Osburn. He is one of the leading band leaders in the military service, as well as a composer and musician of note.

The musical numbers have not been announced, but very likely this fine band will make the welkin ring with the strains of the same lively tune that was played on a lone Texan's flute, with drum accompaniment, as Houston's ragged little army advanced upon the napping Mexicans—"Will You Come to the Bower?"

As the last notes of the music die out, closing the ceremony, a yoke of oxen, owned by E. H. Marks, Harris county stockman, pulling a century-old plow, will be driven over the site of the memorial shaft and break the ground, symbolizing the beginning of construction.

Actual Work Due Soon.

Actual work on the structure will be started in the near future, according to the San Jacinto association.

This shaft, towering 564 feet into the sky—higher than the Washington monument itself, on the Potomac—will be the outstanding memorial structure of all those to be erected as part of the Texas' Centennial celebration. The building at its base will contain a museum of Houston and Texas history, art halls and other public meeting places.

Elevators will be installed to carry passengers to an observation platform 90 feet from the topmost point of the colossal lone star that will surmount the peak of the sheer tower. From the observation platform the visitor can look out and see spread before him the entire scene of the historic drama of San Jacinto—the position and movements of the Texan and Mexican armies, the southeastern marshes where so many of the swarthy invaders were trapped, the bayou where Deaf Smith destroyed Vince's bridge, the distant field where Santa Ana was captured by Robison and Sylvester. The observer can see Harrisburg, burned by Santa Ana on his march after the Texans. He can look down the Ship Channel to the bay, and perhaps even see Galveston island, where President Burnet and his cabinet took refuge during the battle.

Undoubtedly the San Jacinto memorial shaft will be the most distinctive and striking structure in all Texas, and it will be there in 2036 when Texans gather at the battleground to celebrate the bicentennial of the momentous victory.

Of course, the public is invited to attend the ground-breaking ceremonies Friday.

San Jacinto Shaft Ceremony Will Be on Air

Dedicatory Addresses Will Be Heard Over NBC-KPRC.

H.P. 3/27/36

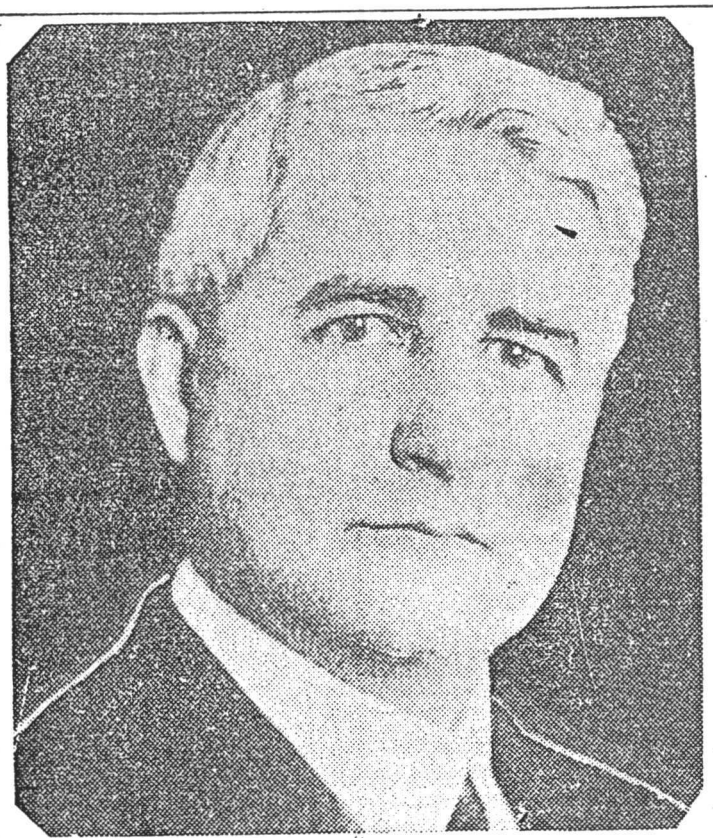
Ground breaking ceremonies for the $1,000,000 San Jacinto Memorial shaft to be erected at San Jacinto Battlegrounds will be broadcast Friday at 1 p. m. through the facilities of the National Broadcasting company. This broadcast will originate over KPRC by remote control from the Battlegrounds.

Dedicatory addresses will be made by Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance corporation; Major John C. Townes, president of the San Jacinto Centennial association, and Lieutenant Governor Walter H. Woodul. The highlight of the broadcast will be the presentation of Colonel Andrew Jackson Houston, only living son of General Sam Houston, hero of San Jacinto. Colonel Houston will speak on events leading up to the memorable Battle of San Jacinto.

As the first ground is turned, Kern Tips, KPRC commentator, will come to the microphone with a description of the ancient plow that will be used for the ground breaking. The 100-year-old plow, appropriately enough, will be drawn by a yoke of oxen.

Musical background for the program will be furnished by the Sixty-ninth U. S. Coast Artillery band, under the direction of Warrant Officer Osborne. Merle H. Tucker, Centennial radio director, will act as master of ceremonies. (KPRC)

KPRC-NBC SPEAKER



Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, who will participate in the dedicatory ceremonies to be broadcast over NBC and KPRC Friday at 1 p. m. from the San Jacinto battlegrounds.

San Jacinto

100-Year-Old Plow Bites Into Hallowed Soil of San Jacinto

Press 3-27-36

Ceremony of Breaking Ground for Monument Is Almost as Brief as Battle Which It Is to Commemorate

A 100-year-old plow, drawn by two oxen, bit into the hallowed soil of San Jacinto Battleground today to mark the spot where a $900,000 monument to General Sam Houston and his men will be erected.

Ceremony Brief

There ceremony, attended by thousands of Texans and broadcast over the nation, was brief. The band played, speakers paid tribute to Texas heroes and the soil was turned.

Scarcely more than 30 minutes were taken, about the time it took the Texans to rout the Mexicans 100 years ago.

The ceremony took lace on the 100th anniversary of the massacre at Goliad.

Andrew Jackson Houston, only living son of General Sam Houston, spoke about the Texas army and its victory.

Jesse H. Jones, Reconstruction Finance Corporation chairman, who assisted in obtaining a federal appropriation for the monument, also spoke.

Lieutenant Governor Woodul, head of the Texas Centennial organization, took part.

John C. Townes, president of the San Jacinto Centennial Association, presided.

The Sixty-ninth Coast Artillery Band played "Come to the Bower," the tune to which Texans marched to battle at San Jacinto.

From the ground broken by the antique plow a 564-foot shaft will arise. From an observation tower 474 feet high, visitors can look out over the field where about 900 men won independence for Texas.

Youthful Soldiers

Colonel Houston discussed briefly his father and the army he commanded at San Jacinto.

"The general was 43 and the average age of the soldiers was 20," he said. "The older men were taking their families out of danger, intending to return to the army later. These youths had confidence in their commander and he had confidence in their loyalty to him and their fidelity to duty.

"The field officers were necessarily men of positive natures and each had his own idea of military strategy. The general reported to the secretary of war:

"'I consulted none. I held no councils of war. If I err the blame is mine.' He realized authority was inseparable from responsibility and was ready to assume responsibility for his own acts, but not for those of others."

Many Hardships

The "40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness" were used to drill and march in preparation for the coming battle, Colonel Houston said. The soldiers slept in the rain and mud without tents and sometimes without food.

Other troubles came to Houston. When the soldiers heard Col. James Travis had been defeated, many deserted. Houston did not sleep or eat for 48 hours, his son said.

"The army or the general did not give up, however," Colonel Houston said. "They overcame hardships and won the glorious victory of San Jacinto.

Logical Climax

"Because the battle was marvelous, some non-military writers have said it was a logical climax to a series of strategical moves, according to the laws of military science. Santa Anna, the Mexican general, stated 'it was a surprise.'"

Major Townes paid tribute to other states for their contributions to Texas independence, introducing Colonel Houston.

"We are mindful of the great contributions other states made during the dark days when Texas was struggling for her independence," he said. "The flower of the manhood and womanhood of many of our older states came to Texas and contributed notably to a successful cause which opened a territory that later compised one-third of the area now known as the United States. To these states and to the descendants of those hardy pioneers, Texas sends her everlasting thanks."

Jesse Jones Talks

Mr. Jones paid tribute to the heroes of San Jacinto and other battles who fought that Texas might be free.

"It should be forever remembered that the men who fought and died at the Alamo and at Goliad contributed as much as if they they had in fact fought with General Houston on this field. Their spirits hovered about to make more certain complete victory.

"—And the victory won here, save only that made by the men who followed Washington some 60 years before, was perhaps the greatest of all contributions to the cause of free government in the world. It made possible the extension of the United States of America, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Great Lakes to the Rio Grande. It made possible our great nation which offers the hope of freedom to all mankind.

Stand for Years

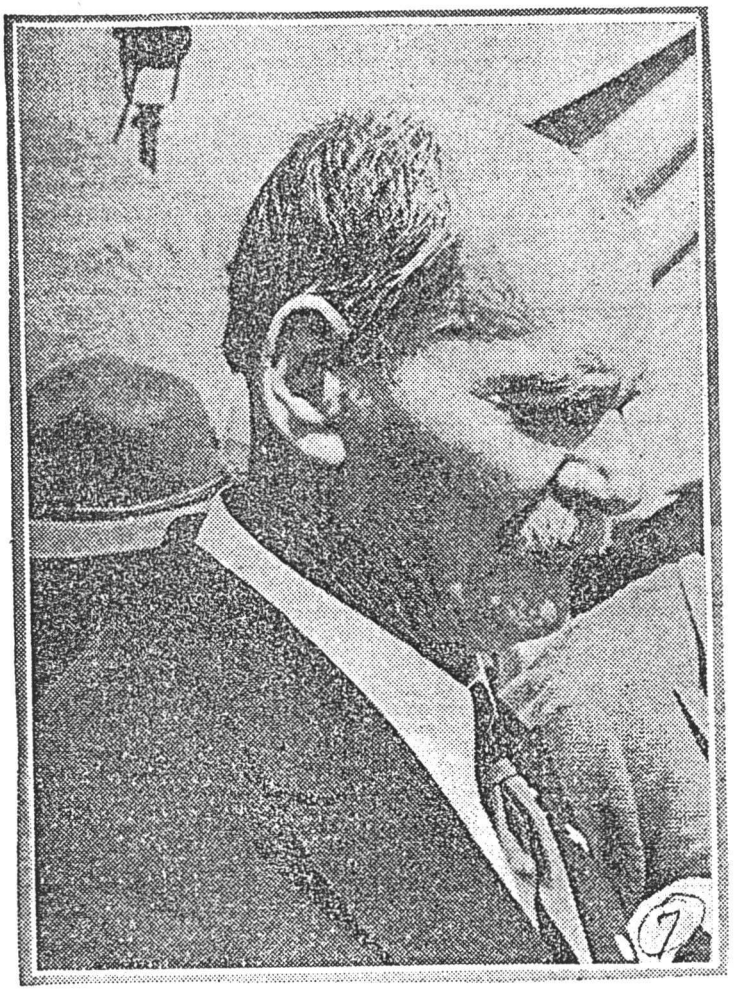
"The monument we erect here will be comparable to Washington Monument, at our nation's capital, with some added features taken from the beautiful Lincoln Memorial. It will stand in magnificence for centuries, and as time takes us further from the scene, the Centennial of which we are celebrating in Texas this year, greater will appear the importance of that scene, and the victory at San Jacinto.

"Those of us who are privileged to have a part in this Centennial, should lift our eyes to heaven and thank the Great Father for that privilege, and for the heritage given us by the valor and the sacrifices of the vanguard of civilization that opened up our great Southwest."

Principals and Scenes at San Jacinto Ground Breaking Ceremony

H.C. 3/2/1936

U.S.A.
W-4261
NBC
KPRC



As ground was broken for the million dollar memorial shaft at San Jacinto Battlefield Friday, Jesse H. Jones, modern leader of Texas, met with descendants of the great leader of pioneer times, Gen. Sam Houston, hero of San Jacinto. A century-old wooden plow, drawn by oxen, was used to break the first ground for the shaft, which will rise 564 feet above the battlefield.

First ~~row, left~~: Six-year-old Madge Houston Thornall, great-great-granddaughter of Sam Houston, presented Mr. Jones with the official Centennial button while Mrs. Anna Clyde Plunkett, designer of the button, left, and Mrs. I. B. McFarland, regent of the Alexander Love chapter, D. A. R., look on. ~~Right:~~ 2 Mrs. Clarence E. Thornall, great-granddaughter of General Houston, her daughter, and Col. Andrew Jackson Houston, only living son of General Houston and honor guest at the ceremony, and Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, granddaughter of Sam Houston.

~~Second row, left~~, from left to right: Mr. Jones, Maj. John C. Townes, president of the San Jacinto Centennial Association, Lieut. Gov. Walter F. Woodul, and standing behind Lieutenant Governor Woodul, Colonel Houston. ~~Right:~~ 4 After Colonel Houston held the handles of the 100-year-old plow as it broke the first ground, Mr. Jones took over the plow and turned a furrow. E. H. Marks, ranchman, is guiding the oxen.

~~Third row, left~~ 5 Children from Garden Villas School swarmed around Mr. Jones and here is the chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation obliging two of the school children with his autograph. ~~Right:~~ 6 Two daughters of Colonel Houston, Margaret and Ariadne.

~~Bottom:~~ 7 A close-up of Colonel Houston as he gave his address over the radio. The speeches at the ceremony were broadcast over a nation-wide hook-up.

Santa Anna Finds San Felipe in Ashes With 'Texian' Company Barricaded Across Brazos River

Post- 4-8-36 NPC

Editor's Note: The following "war correspondent's dispatch," covering developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, is the fourth of a series by Ed Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

MEXICAN HEADQUARTERS, San Felipe, April 7, 1836.—President Santa Anna, leading some 1500 bluecoats of Sesma's and Tolsa's columns, marched triumphantly into San Felipe today to find the capital of Austin's colonies in ashes and deserted.

However, he found the crossing of the brimming Brazos guarded by a small force of revolutionists, entrenched on the opposite bank behind breastworks of fallen trees and earth. The Texas promptly opened fire.

The Mexican advance guard, led by General Castrillon and Colonel Trevino, captured a Texan named William Simpson and brought him before Santa Anna.

Simpson said he and two others, Isaac Hill and James Bell, had been stationed as outposts on the west bank. He said they were members of Captain Moseley Baker's company of about 80 men who were defending the river crossing.

Santa Anna laughed. "So 80 miserable Americanos would oppose the advance of the Napoleon of the West, with his brave, well-trained armies!"

The prisoner, a gaunt, shaggy young frontiersman, clad in buckskins, stared wide-eyed at the president of Mexico and the important looking officers around him. He seemed transfixed by the cold gray eyes of this swart, proud little man, resplendent in his imposing uniform, who had directed the slaughter of Travis and his 180 defenders of the Alamo, and the wanton butchery of Fannin and his 330 patriots at Goliad.

Although informed that General Sam Houston was on the west side of the river, some 20 miles above, with a smaller force than his own, Santa Anna for some unexplained reason seemed determined to move on eastward. Perhaps his reason for not going after Houston was that he considered the rain-flooded river bottom impassable.

While his artillery and infantry sharpshooters kept up a desultory fire at Baker across the river, the presirent reconnoitered several miles up and down the swoolen stream, looking for a crossing whereby he might surprise Baker by a night attack.

"We must move as soon as we can," he told Almonte, his aide. "A few more days' rains will make it impossible to travel over this low country at all."

Finding no crossing, Santa Anna ordered some carpenters among his troops to construct two large flatboats or rafts on which to ferry the army across. The work was started late this afternoon.

Meanwhile the Mexican and Texian troops continued their long-distance exchange of shots over the wide river. An American named Jackson, in the Mexican army, concealed himself in a brick oven near the river bank and sniped at Baker's men. He killed one.

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TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Groce's Ferry, April 7, 1836.—General Sam Houston this evening ordered his little army to make itself ready for action "at a moment's warning," after he received definite information that pursuing Mexican forces had reached San Felipe.

Deaf Smith and Henry Karnes, crack spies of the revolutionary cause, made a breakneck ride through the muddy bottoms to bring the news.

The report stirred the Texian patriots to a high pitch of excitement. Officers and soldiers swarmed about their commander, clamoring for an order to prepare for battle.

"My boys, you shall have a battle!" the towering general assured them.

Accordingly, he issued the following order:

"Headquarters of the Army, Camp West of the Brazos, April 7, 1836.

"Army orders—The advance of the enemy is at San Felipe. The moment for which we have waited with anxiety and interest is fast approaching. The victims of the Alamo and those murdered at Goliad, call for cool, deliberate vengeance. Strict discipline, order and subordination will insure us the victory.

"The army will be in readiness for action at a moment's warning. The field officers have the immediate execution of this order in charge of their respective commands.

"SAM HOUSTON,
"Commander-in-Chief.
"GEORGE W. HOCKLEY,
"Inspector General."

General Houston did not reveal his exact plans—whether he meant to go forward to meet the Mexicans, or await their advance here.

A few hours before this news came, three young men who had escaped the Goliad massacre by bolting when the Mexicans began firing at them, found their way to this camp after 12 days of wandering, hardships and hairbreadth escapes. They were wounded, barefoot and ragged. Their story of the ghastly [illegible] Bahia moved the [illegible] foundly.

T-History

HOUSTON MEETS MUTINY THREAT BY READY GRAVES

Post-4-9-36

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following "war correspondent's dispatch," reporting developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, is the fifth of a series by Ed Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Groce's Ferry, April 8, 1836.—General Sam Houston resorted to stern measures this evening to check a mutinous movement to overthrow him as commander-in-chief.

After yesterday's news of the Mexican army's arrival at San Felipe, down the Brazos, and Houston's promise to his men that they should have a battle, his failure all day to make a forward move to meet the enemy stirred the hot-heads to a new high pitch of impatience.

The uprising was precipitated by the arrival in camp of a settler named Kuykendall, who said he had been taken prisoner by some Mexicans while eating dinner in his home down toward San Felipe.

"They took me before Santa Anna," he related to General Houston. "He received me kindly, and after some questioning, to my surprise turned me loose. He said he wanted me to deliver a message to you."

"To me?" echoed the giant Sam Houston in his deep bluff voice. "What message did that blankety-blank cutthroat send to me?"

"He said, 'Go find General Houston and tell him I'm tired of hunting after him and his army, like so many Indians in the woods, but that if he will come out of his hiding place, I will give him a fight in the open prairie.'"

Texians Go Wild.

Hearing this challenge from the hated Mexican butcher, the fight-hungry Texian riflemen went wild.

"This is too much!" declared a major. "It's time for us to do something besides lying in idleness and getting sick. If General Houston won't lead us to battle, we should get another commander."

A large number of insurgents applauded this proposal—which, in fact, they had considered before. They discussed possible candidates for the high command, and agreed that Colonel Sidney Sherman was the best prospect. Previously Major Ben Fort Smith had been mentioned in this connection.

Only today Sherman was promoted from lieutenant colonel of the First volunteer regiment to colonel of the Second regiment, just organized. He and John A. Wharton are the only men in the army with uniforms. Colonel Sherman's is a brilliant costume, with a blue round jacket trimmed with lace, set off by a dress sword. The ensemble well matches the young Kentuckian's dashing character.

When General Houston got wind of this movement to "beat up for volunteers" to supplant him, he snorted, "We'll see about that!" And forthwith he dictated a notice and had copies tacked to trees about camp with wooden pegs. It said in substance:

"The first man who beats for volunteers will be courtmartialed and shot."

Graves Dug.

Two graves were dug to receive offenders. One copy of the warning was pinned to a hickory tree not far from Colonel Sherman's headquarters.

Major Smith, Captain J. N. Moreland and Dr. Alexander Ewing went among the disturbers and counseled against the proposed mutiny, pleading that it would break up the little army. Their entreaties, together with the commander's grim warning, stayed the rebellion, at least for the time being.

Except for these distracting events and the organization of the new regiment, the usual routine went on during the day in the slushy army camp. General Houston, however, seemed a little more intensive than usual in drilling his ragged, mud-caked patriot soldiers, counting them and looking after the sick. He gave no explanation of his delay in giving the promised marching order to meet the enemy. It is believed, however, that he is anxious to get the artillery for which he has sent, before going into action.

For two days Captain Moseley Baker, with less than 100 men entrenched on the east bank of the Brazos, opposite San Felipe, has kept the Mexican army of 1000 or more there from crossing, according to a report received from him tonight.

"My work of cutting down trees and digging trenches to protect the crossing was not finished when the Mexicans arrived yesterday," Baker said. "We have sustained a continual cannonade, but my men are undaunted and delighted at the chance to meet the enemy. The Mexicans have not crossed yet, and we shall prevent it at all hazards, if possible, believing that their crossing would jeopardize all the country east of the river and its population."

Baker reported one of his men, John Bricker, killed in the engagement, and an outpost, William Simpson, captured on the west bank.

T-History

SANTA ANNA DISCARDS PLAN TO FERRY BRAZOS

Post 4-10-36

Editor's note: The following "war correspondent's dispatch," covering developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, is the sixth of a series by Ed Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

MEXICAN HEADQUARTERS, near Coll's Farm, April 9, 1936.—President Santa Anna with 500 picked grenadiers and 50 cavalrymen made camp here at noon, after a march of about 12 miles down the soggy Brazos bottoms from San Felipe.

While carpenters were constructing two large rafts to transport his forces across the river at San Felipe, Santa Anna suddenly decided not to wait any longer, but to seek a crossing at Fort Bend. Accordingly he left Sesma at San Felipe with part of the army, subject to early further orders, and struck out southward.

Whether El Presidente's move was actuated by impatience to get over the flooded river before the interminable rains rendered the country impassable, or to fear of Captain Moseley Baker and his company of revolutionists, he did not reveal. Baker, entrenched on the east bank, successfully resisted the Mexican army's passage for two days.

At the Coll farm the Mexicans found a family of refugees from the Lavaca. The head of the family was a mulatto named Wilson. The woman is white.

Santa Anna sent Wilson down the river to reconnoiter, and remained here awaiting information. When night came, rainy and cold, Wilson had not returned.

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FORT BEND, April 9, 1836.—Captain Wylie Martin, guarding Thompson's Ferry near here with a small force of Texians, learned late today that a Mexican column of about 500 was approaching.

A free mulatto negro named Wilson brought the news, confirming indirect reports of spies. He said Santa Anna himself was in command.

"I was at Coll's farm when the Mexican came," said the ragged refugee, covered with the red Brazos mud. "They sent me out to see if any American soldiers were around in the lower country."

Captain Martin immediately forwarded the intelligence by an express to General Sam Houston at Groce's, and prepared to oppose the enemy's crossing.

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TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Groce's Ferry, April 9, 1836.—The mystery shrouding General Sam Houston's plans was deepened today by news brought to the commander of the Texian "army of the people," bivouacked here, by a buckskin-clad settler from the Redlands.

The newcomer reported that a company of volunteers from the Nacogdoches section had reached Robbins' Ferry, on the Trinity above Liberty, and halted there. He said Mr. Robbins told them General Houston had sent instructions for them to proceed no farther westward.

Dr. N. D. Labadie, a regimental surgeon here, informs this correspondent that he heard General Houston tell the Redlander that he had, indeed, ordered the East Texas company to stop at Robbins' Ferry.

This would indicate that Houston intends to continue his retreat to the Trinity, and wants the Redlands company to join the army there. Reports from the east strengthen the inference. In fact, Colonel A. Huston, quartermaster, who is now out in the country, has been quoted as saying he had orders from the commanding general to collect supplies for the army at Robbins' Ferry.

On the other hand, it has been learned definitely that the provisional government at Harrisburg, fearful that the enemy would descend upon the coast and seaports instead of crossing eastward from the Brazos, has ordered Colonels Huston and W. D. C. Hall to remove all stores and munitions from Coxe's Point, Matagorda, Velasco, Bell's Landing and Columbia to the east end of Galveston island. This, coupled with reports that Santa Anna planned to seize Galveston and place 1000 Mexican troops on the island, indicates that the Texian government may have determined to beat him there and fortify the island with Houston's army.

In view of General Houston's promise of day before yesterday that his men should have a chance to meet the enemy, these conflicting reports are most perplexing.

The Redlander said East Texians were becoming apprehensive of an allied Mexican and Indian assault upon their settlements. They are alarmed by preparations being made for the warpath by the powerful Cherokees of that region. As for the Mexicans, they know that General Gaona with a division had started for Nacogdoches, but they had not learned, as is now known here, that the Mexican plan of action has been changed. Several days ago Santa Anna countermanded his orders to Gaona and told him to join the other columns near the Brazos for a concentrated movement against the colonists.

General Houston was gratified today by information that the two cannon for which he has been waiting had been landed at Harrisburg and would reach Groce's in a few days. On March 14 the commander dispatched Wm. T. Austin to Brazoria for the guns. Colonel Huston shipped them on the schooner Pennsylvania, and Captain Smith is hauling them here with horses.

Despite the added delay necessary to await the artillery, the impatient Texian volunteers seemed mollified by this news, for it meant that soon an obstacle which Houston has considered serious, to taking a stand against the Mexicans, would be removed.

Houston was not displeased by a report that the Mexicans had abandoned the attempt to cross the Brazos, after two days' unsuccessful effort, and had left San Felipe this morning.

INFORMATION FILE

Refugees Flee Before Mexican Advance While Houston's Army Drills on Brazos

Post 4-11-36

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following "war correspondent's dispatches," covering developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, is the seventh of a series by Ed Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

HEADQUARTERS, PROVISIONAL TEXAS GOVERNMENT, Harrisburg, April 10, 1836.—A battle between Sam Houston's army on the Brazos and the Mexican invaders was promised "at the first favorable moment" in dispatches received from the commander-in-chief here today by the provisional government.

In one letter, written on April 6 at the army camp near Groce's, General Houston told of capturing a deserter from the Mexican army, who reported much dissatisfaction in the enemy ranks because of miserable living conditions and severity of treatment. Houston added that the enemy "shall be closely looked to, and the first favorable moment seized with avidity to effect his total defeat."

Houston added: "The present position of the army is one of strength and security, and from which the movements of the enemy can be vigilantly watched."

In another report dated April 9, which came by the same courier, the commander intimated that the flooded river has been the cause of his delay in meeting the enemy, saying: "It is unfortunate for us that the waters are so high as to prevent us from that activity which would be desirable . . . I look for the waters to fall in the course of a day or so."

Army Increasing.

General Houston said his army was increasing, and that the enemy was not in such great force as was expected. He reported the organization of a new regiment, and said he expected to form a brigade, under orders of the secretary of war. (Col. Thomas J. Rusk, secretary of war, is with the army. Houston's reports were addressed to David Thomas, acting secretary of war.)

"Today I am in good spirits, and hope to be in better," the commander stated. "The camp is healthy. Tell our people never again to give way to a panic; but to do their duty."

Captain J. N. Allen of Harrisburg, who is leaving to join the army, also received a communication from General Houston today, containing this significant statement: "Assure the inhabitants generally that the army will not cross the Brazos, unless to act with more effect against the enemy; and that the most certain way of securing their property and families, is to repair to the army and drive the invaders from the soil. Those who refuse to join us will have their property confiscated, and be regarded as deserters from our cause."

Other Reports.

In contradiction of some of the general's statements, reports from other members of the army, current here, are that the army's position is not "one of strength and security;" that the army, with the steamboat Yellowstone at its command, could readily cross the Brazos, despite high waters; that Houston does not intend to take stand, but will continue his retreat to East Texas; and that the army camp, far from being healthy, is ravaged by dysentery, measles and other sickness.

The government here shares the general alarm and anxiety over conditions, and is becoming impatient for General Houston to act.

Many refugees, piteously suffering from privations and terror, are camped hereabout, seeking protection from the invading hordes. Many more are at Lynchburg, Cedar Bayou, and on the Sabine. Everywhere over the prairie and on the roads are seen men, women and children, all fearful of their fate. They believe the Mexicans are coming, and that nothing will stop them. Gangs of ruffians, claiming to represent the government, are reported to be taking horses from the few people who have them, on the pretext of pressing them for army use.

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TEXAS HEADQUARTERS, Groce's Ferry, April 10, 1836.—Spies reported to General Houston tonight that Santa Anna's force had continued its march down the west bank of the Brazos toward Fort Bend, and probably would attempt a crossing at Thompson's Crossing, guarded by Major Wylie Martin and a detachment of about 45 men.

The story of a little camp scandal of a few days ago, involving Major James H. Perry, young aide-de-camp to General Houston, leaked out here today.

Houston had issued an order that no written communication should go out of camp without his censorship. Wednesday Perry, a brilliant West Pointer from New York, left a sealed letter in Colonel Rusk's tent to go with some dispatches he was sending to Harrisburg. The letter was addressed to Robert Potter, secretary of the navy, an enemy of Houston's. Rusk opened the letter and showed it to the general.

General Censored.

It strongly censured the commander and his Febian policy of retreating, and warned of disaster to result therefrom. It attributed Houston's enigmatic actions to the use of drugs.

General Houston hailed Perry before him and stormily confronted the aide with the letter. Perry admitted having written it, and said he believed what he had written.

"Don't you know," roared Houston, "that no good and much evil might grow out of that letter if sent to the department of state?"

"I love my general, but my country better," tersely replied Perry.

But General Houston no longer loved Major Perry. He reprimanded him severely, but permitted him to remain in camp, attached to the staff.

T-History

Sam Houston Crosses Swollen Brazos As Arrest of Deserters Is Ordered

Post-4-14-36

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following "war correspondent's dispatches," covering developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, is the tenth of a series by Ed Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Groce's Plantation, April 13, 1836.—The crossing of General Sam Houston's patriot army over the swollen Brazos was nearly completed today.

Camp was pitched here on the picturesque river bottom plantation of Jared Groce, and the troops are to take up the line of march eastward tomorrow.

General Houston was intensely busy all day, dividing his time between actively supervising the passage of the men, camp equipage and stock over the river on the steamboat Yellowstone and the yawl, and dictating orders, proclamations and letters.

In a proclamation addressed "to the Citizens of Texas," the commander said:

"You have suffered panic to seize you, and idle rumor to guide you. You will now be told that the enemy have crossed the Brazos, and that Texas is conquered. Reflect, reason with yourselves, and you can not believe a part of it. The enemy have crossed the Brazos, but they are treading the soil on which they are to be conquered. That he has not been already beaten, has been caused by the tardiness of some, and the apathy of others.

900 in Enemy Force.

"The force of the enemy does not exceed 900 men. With a semblance of force sufficient to meet him, his fate is certain. If, then, you wish your country saved, join her standard . . . Let those who are on the march, advance to the army. Those who do not aid Texas in her present struggle, but flee and forfeit all the rights of citizens, will deserve their fate."

In a long letter replying to acting Secretary of War David Thomas' stinging demand of yesterday that he take a stand, Houston pleaded many difficulties and delays, and assured that he would do his utmost to serve the country. "I have, under the most disadvantageous circumstances, kept an army together; but I can not perform impossibilities."

After mentioning his present situation, he made this puzzling statement: "I would have fallen back on Harrisburg at once, but a wish to allay the panic that prevailed, induced me to stop at the Brasos contrary to my views of military operations. I had assurances of reinforcements by remaining on the Brasos . . ."

The government at Harrisburg has informed General Houston that the navy recently captured the brig Pocket, carrying supplies from New Orleans to Mexico, and that letters found on board revealed that Santa Anna planned to secure the seaports and occupy Galveston island with 1000 men. Houston's mention of a deferred intention to "fall back on Harrisburg" fits in with the rumor that the government contemplated fortifying Galveston with his army. But it does not jibe with the more general belief that he is headed for the Louisiana border.

Mexican Crossing.

Houston said he had had reason to expect the Mexicans would attempt to cross the Brazos at San Felipe, and that he had sent 150 men there to resist them. He did not explain why he sent no more of his army down the river to repel an army.

"When I assured the (war) department that the enemy should not pass the Brasos," he continued, "I did not intend to convey the idea that either the army or myself possessed powers of ubiquity; but, that they should not pass through my encampment."

Evidently disturbed by reports of a threatened Indian uprising in East Texas, Houston today wrote his old friend and "blood-brother," Chief Bowles of the Cherokees, reminding him that Houston had been the red man's friend and that the red man would find it to his advantage to reciprocate.

"My friend Col Bowl," he wrote, "I am very busy, and will only say how da do, to you! . . . My best compliments to my sister, and tell her that I have not wore out the mockasins which she made me."

To Col. Nathaniel Robbins, at Robbins' Ferry on the Trinity above Liberty the commander sent an order to "seize all arms and guns, and such weapons of war as may be useful to the army, or necessary to the defense of Texas, giving receipts for the same, and holding them subject to the orders of the government." Also he directed Robbins to arrest all deserters from the army, including all who had not furnished substitutes or whose furloughs had expired.

Houston dispatched an order for the arrest of his old friend Peter Ellis Bean, Indian agent for Mexico. It is said that Bean, whose sympathies are with Texas, himself requested that he be arrested, in order that his pay from Mexico would continue.

General Houston prepared to spend the night here on the plantation, directing Colonel Sidney Sherman to superintend the crossing of the rest of the army and the baggage from the west bank.

Jared Groce, proprietor of the plantation, has removed most of his small army of slaves to Louisiana, and is himself now absent.

The commanding general had dinner tonight with some relatives of Groce's who are living at his house. Colonel Burleson also dined in the party.

"There is a traitor in camp," Houston remarked in the course of the conversation. "Can you guess who it is?"

"I guess it is Major Perry," said Burleson.

"You're right," said Houston. "I intercepted a letter from him to the cabinet a few days ago. Perry is trying to have the command taken from me, and wants it himself."

"I have no confidence in Perry," said Burleson. "I consider him a reckless young fool. However, General, you may depend on it, there is a deep and growing dissatisfaction in the camp, and Perry's conduct is but an index of that feeling."

The towering commander ate in silence for a moment, his massive features gravely thoughtful. "Well," he said at length, "I hope to get a bloodless victory."

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MEXICAN HEADQUARTERS, Fort Bend, April 13, 1836.—Joined today by General Sesma's column of about 1000 bluecoats from San Felipe, President Santa Anna was ready tonight to take up the line of march eastward.

However, information gained from prisoners taken at Richmond has changed his original plans. This information is that the provisional government and cabinet of the new independent Texian government are now at Harrisburg, a day's march from here. Instead, therefore, of marching up the Brazos after General Houston's revolutionary army, Santa Anna has determined to make a quick jump to Harrisburg, capture the government and thus disconcert the revolution.

Day before yesterday the Mexicans routed Major Wylie Martin and the small force guarding Thompson's crossing on the Brazos, and sent orders to San Felipe for Sesma and Filisola to join him with their forces here. Filisola had not reached San Felipe when Sesma left there, and El President probably will not wait for him. In fact, it is understood that he will take only a small mobile force to Harrisburg.

T-History

Planter Demands Houston's Army Leave Trees Alone, So Fence Rails Used as Fuel

Post-4-15-36

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following "war correspondent's dispatches," covering developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, are the eleventh of a series by El Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Donoho's Plantation, April 14.—General Sam Houston's "army of the people" made camp here this evening, after a march of about six miles from Groce's, bound for a destination unknown to the rank and file.

Robert H. Hunter, a volunteer soldier, tells this correspondent he overheard a conversation while the army was preparing to leave Groce's, in which the commander-in-chief indicated he was heading toward the Redlands. The conversation was with Mrs. Pamelia Mann, who kept a tavern at Washington on the Brazos before joining in the "runaway scrape." She had two wagons and teams at Groce's, and Houston asked her to lend the army a yoke of oxen to help pull an artillery wagon over the muddy roads, according to Hunter. He related the incident thus:

"Mrs. Mann said to General Houston: 'General, if you are going on the Nacogdoches road you can have my oxen, but if you go the other road to Harrisburg you can't have them, I want them myself.'

"Houston said: 'Well, I am going the Nacogdoches road,' but he did not say how far he would go on it." (The road forks toward Harrisburg and Lynchburg near here.)

Mr. Donoho, a well-to-do planter, is not in sympathy with the Texian cause. When the army marched up a lane in front of his house today, the rugged old settler stepped out on the porch and addressed the commander, who led the vanguard.

"General," he said, "I don't want you to camp on my land or cut my timber."

"All right, Mr. Donoho, we won't cut your trees." Houston turned to his men, ordered the men to take two panels out of the fence so the column could march through, and led them through the gap.

When they were all through, the commander addressed his followers: "Citizen Donoho does not want you to cut his timber, and any man who lays an ax to a tree will be punished. Take the rails from that fence for fuel."

Seeing his fence destroyed, Citizen Donoho, of course, was madder than if they had cut his trees. But he could do nothing about it except sputter and curse, which he did fervently but not loudly enough for the giant General Houston to hear.

Freed from their two weeks' chafing inactivity in the river bottom camp, most of the boys were feeling good this evening, and a dance was proposed. Ladies were lacking, but volunteers scouted out among the neighboring refugee camps and found quite a bevy of them who agreed to come. While waiting for them, others prepared for the shin-dig.

"Mr. Donoho," said one of them, "we want you to move the furniture out of one of the rooms so we can have a dance."

"I'll not move a blankety-blank thing!" he snapped.

"All right, we'll move it for you." And out went the furniture into the hall of the double log house.

The ragged patriots cleaned up as best they could for the event, and nearly all night they jammed the house, all but fighting to dance with the homespun-clad young women, to the music of a fiddle, a banjo, a fife and much stamping of feet and clapping of hands. More gayety pervaded the ranks than had been manifested since the army left Gonzales on its long retreat eastward. They had not enjoyed feminine society for weeks, and they were making up for lost time. They did not know whether they would be in battle on the morrow, or wounded or dead, and for the time being they did not seem to care.

Departure Noisy.

The departure from Groce's this morning was a noisy one. With lusty imprecations the men bade farewell to the swollen red Brazos, loudly expressing the desire to meet the Mexicans. Farewells to the sick men who had to be left behind at Groce's lent a note of sadness to the occasion.

Having transported all the men, the equipage and the stock over to the east bank, the steamboat Yellowstone this morning started down the river on a dash through the Mexican lines to the gulf. Some of the men who came up here this evening from San Felipe said the noise of its engine and its screeching whistle terrified some of the bucolic Mexican soldiers, while other bolder ones took pot shots at the vessel and threw lariats at its smokestack from the bank.

Notwithstanding the abundance of horses in Texas, only about 60 of the Texas soldiers were mounted. The others, swinging out upon the march, now felt that the lack of extra clothing, tents or bedding which had made life so miserable during the chill rainy days on the Brazos had its compensations. At least they could travel light.

Treasury in Pocket.

General Houston's own luggage consisted of one pair of saddle wallets, carried by his servant, containing the official papers and a change of linen. The army treasury is in Houston's pocket and the treasure is $200 of his personal funds. There is no military chest.

The army was cheered today by the arrival of some supplies and provisions.

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MEXICAN HEADQUARTERS, Somewhere East of the Brazos, April 14, 1836.—Well on the way to Harrisburg to capture the Texian revolutionary government, General Santa Anna halted in his forced march tonight to rest his forces until daylight.

The president of Mexico this afternoon left Thompson's Crossing at Fort Bend, which he had captured from a small rebel company, and struck out on the 40-mile march as rapidly as was possible for the 700 infantry and the 12-pounder, accompanying him and his 70 dragoons.

Crossing Oyster Creek, Santa Anna was in high spirits and enjoyed the confusion and mishaps of the hurrying men. The infantry walked over a log, and some officers and men slipped off into the water. His excellency laughed at them and at the cavalry, mules and muleteers floundering in the mire of the "Muddy Squshy Creek" and the wagon drivers swearing and shouting.

Santa Anna, flanked by General Castrillion, Colonel Almonte and other military dignitaries, all wearing ornamental uniforms, rode as though to certain victory, regarding the occasion as a sort of lark. It had irked him when the situation constrained him to cancel his plans to return to Mexico City on April 1, but now he was enjoying the action as he had enjoyed many similar campaigns in Mexico.

El presidente, flushed with the Alamo slaughter and the Goliad butchery, believes that one more stiff blow will end the Texas revolution. After he captures the Burnet government at Harrisburg and then either corners the elusive Sam Houston or chases him across the Sabine—then the revolution will be over, the ungrateful Americanos will be conquered, and Texas again will be a docile Mexican province. So says Santa Anna.

MEXICAN HEADQUARTERS, Lynchburg, April 16, 1836.—Mexican cavalry hurried down Buffalo bayou today in pursuit of the Texian president and cabinet officers. President Santa Anna's latest information was that they were headed for New Washington on the bay, on the steamboat that left Harrisburg yesterday.

Before leaving Harrisburg, the Mexican dictator ordered the houses, stores and warehouses there burned.

He had to wait for his 550 or more foot soldiers, who shuffled in during the day after an all-night march.

Mexican scouts reported that settlers in the Lynchburg vicinity uniformly understood that General Houston planned to retreat to the Trinity by way of Lynch's ferry. Santa Anna said he intended to seize the Lynchburg crossing before Houston arrived, and head him off.

Meanwhile, he detailed Almonte, his adjutant, with 50 dragoons, to reconnoiter downstream; and dispatched an order to General Filisola, at Fort Bend, to send Cos with 500 picked infantry and 50 boxes of musket cartridges, to reinforce him at New Washington.

Texas Army Marches Toward Harrisburg With High Hopes of Meeting Mexican Troops After Long Wait

INFORMATION FILES

Editor's Note: The following "war correspondent's dispatch," covering developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, is the thirteenth of a series by Ed Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

Post-4-17-36

TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Burnet Settlement, April 16, 1836.—Feverish with excitement, patriots of General Sam Houston's army tonight looked forward to a meeting with Santa Anna's Mexican hordes within two or three days.

At last the big question has been settled; the Texian column took the right branch of the road to Harrisburg and Lynchburg this morning, instead of the Nacogdoches-Sabine fork. And a report that the president of Mexico is at Harrisburg with his forces has been received.

The turn toward Harrisburg was a dramatic event, "pregnant with the fate of Texas," as an officer remarked to the writer. Many of the soldiers had apprehended that the commander would take the left-hand turn, and in that event a blow-up in the army was threatened.

At the crossroads the procession of mud-spattered, ragged, shaggy-haired pioneer warriors halted. The pause brought the turbulent affairs of the army to a tense climax. It is indeed conceivable that the fate of Texas hung upon the determination of a moment.

Decision Argued.

How the final decision came about—who was responsible for it—is a mooted question which even now is being debated around the campfires. Some say the advance guard simply turned off toward Harrisburg and the column followed, marching briskly to the notes of the fife and drum. Colonel R. M. Coleman, one of General Houston's aides, declares that Secretary of War Rusk dragged Houston into the right-hand road against his will.

Dr. N. D. Labadie, a genial regimental surgeon who keeps a daily journal of activities, has just shown this correspondent his entry for today, in part as follows:

"Owing to the conflicting opinions as to which road the army was to take after reaching Mr. Roberts', where it forked, I wanted to satisfy myself on that point, and went to Major Ben Smith for information. He replied it was his opinion the army would continue straight on and cross the Trinity at Robbins' Ferry.

"As many were unwilling to go on that road, a halt was expected to be made at Roberts', and as we neared that point three or four others and I galloped to near the advance guard, the captain of which told us he had received no orders, but would go between the two roads.

Road to Harrisburg.

"As General Houston was now coming up, several of us desired Mr. Roberts, who was standing on his gate, to point out to all—THE ROAD TO HARRISBURGH. General Houston was then close by, when Roberts raised his hand, and elevating his voice, cried out: 'That right-hand road will carry you to Harrisburgh just as straight as a compass.'

"A shout was then raised: 'To the right, boys, to the right!' The whole line was fast closing up, as the music had stopped; but upon hearing the shout from the men, the music proceeded to the right. The advance guard, then a quarter of a mile ahead, between the two roads, seeing the music take the right, wheeled also to the right; and then loud and joyous shouts followed in succession, and the band of music forgetting itself in its enthusiasm, distanced all the rest, only a small squad keeping up with them, when Major Wells galloped by me, ordering them to halt till the wagons, cannons, medicine-cart, etc., should come up."

Shortly after the turn was made, an incident occurred which occasioned much laughter and discussion. The army was sloshing through the hog-wallow prairie under a hot sun, when a woman came galloping up from the northwest. She was none other than Mrs. Pamelia Mann, who had loaned the army a yoke of oxen to draw an ammunition wagon, on General Houston's assurance that he was going the Nacogdoches road. She was rather comely, but dressed like a pioneer, and had a brace of pistols on her saddle pommel and a large knife on her saddle.

Demands Oxen.

"General," she said, riding up to Houston, "you said you were going the Nacogdoches road, and I want my oxen."

"I'm sorry, Mrs. Mann, but we can't spare them," replied the massive commander in the gallant tone he always uses in addressing ladies. "We can't pull our ammunition wagon without them."

"I don't care a damn for your ammunition wagon, I want my oxen!" And the woman rode over to the oxen, dismounted, and with her knife cut the rawhide tug with which the broken trace-chain was tied. No one said a word as she unhitched the animals, sprang back on her horse, and drove her oxen away.

Wagon Master Rohrer, a giant in buckskins, took out after Mrs. Mann, declaring he would bring back the oxen. General Houston raised up in his saddle and shouted, "Better look out, Captain Rohrer, that woman will bite!"

"Damn her biting," replied the wagon master. But he returned some time later and admitted rather sheepishly that she would not let him have the oxen. The boys ragged him all day about it.

Wagon Bogged.

The heavy wagon was bogged, and when Houston dismounted to look at it, the mud came over his boot tops. "Come on, boys," he said, "let's get this wagon out of the mud." He put his shoulder to the wheel and about 10 men laid hold. Out she came, and the army resumed its march.

Heavy rains during the day made the already muddy prairie a quagmire, and the commander frequently put his powerful shoulder to the wheel when the wagons bogged. Sometimes he would get down and walk, letting some sick soldier ride his horse. As the column marched he sometimes rode along the line counting the men as a drover would check up on his herd. Houston carried a bottle of smelling salts, which he frequently applied to his nostrils. In his shabby, muddy mismatched suit and wide-brimmed old hat he is a woeful looking commander-in-chief, but his towering stature and his commanding leonine personality proclaims the leader.

Even after the army turned toward Harrisburg some of the men were still disgruntled, feeling that Houston did not really intend to fight if he could avoid it. But when an express came in and reported that the enemy was at Harrisburg, less than 25 miles away, the dissension in camp ceased. They now believed they were going to meet the Mexicans.

Spirit Sharpened.

Their fighting spirit was sharpened by a message brought by a negro who had been captured by the Mexicans.

"Santa Anna turned me loose," the slave told General Houston, "and said, tell you he knowed you was up there in the bushes and as soon as he ketched the 'land thieves' down by Lynchburg he would come and smoke you out."

"So the murdering greaser is at Harrisburg," mused the commander. "Well, well!"

Measles had broken out again in the army. A number of afflicted men were furloughed to go home. During the march through the rain Dr. Labadie gave his only cloak to a suffering patient named McLaughlin. The soldier's father took him—and the cloak—home.

During the day rumblings were heard in the distance to the southeast. The soldiers said they were thunder, but Houston thought they were cannon. "He's got the cannon fever," remarked a camp humorist.

The turn toward Harrisburg brought a long piteous wail from the large following of refugees, who wanted to go anywhere but to the seat of war. Houston ordered Captain Wylie Martin to escort them from Robbins' ferry on the Trinity, and to look out for Indian hostilities to the eastward.

CONT ON BACK.

INFORMATION FILE San Jacinto

Battle Fervor of Exhausted Texas Troops Raised as Houston Prepares for Conflict

EDITOR'S NOTE — The following "war correspondent's dispatches," covering developments at "the front" on this date 100 years ago, form the sixteenth of a series by Ed Kilman, Post historical writer, tracing the movements of the Texan and Mexican forces in the hide-and-seek campaign that culminated in the epochal battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

Post 4-20-36

TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Near Lynchburg, April 19, 1836—Battle with Santa Anna's forces appeared likely within 24 hours, as the exhausted soldiers of General Sam Houston ended a grueling day and half a night of labor and forced marching from Harrisburg and flung themselves down on the wet, cold ground for a few hours' sleep.

The enemy is known to be a short distance down Buffalo bayou, toward New Washington, and the Texians, though completely worn out by 12 miles trudging through sticky mud, were almost wildly eager for a fight. An engagement is expected tomorrow.

Early this morning General Houston formed his troops on the wooded north bank of the bayou below Harrisburg, preparatory to crossing, and addressed them.

"The army will cross and meet the enemy," said the massive commander in his sonorous voice. "Some of us may be killed, but, soldiers, let us remember the Alamo, and remember Goliad!"

"Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" echoed the men lustily, and the battlecry rolled down the line like thunder.

Col. Thomas J. Rusk, secretary of war, next exhorted the troops with an eloquence that fairly set them afire with battle fervor. He, too, called upon them to avenge the slaughter of their countrymen at the Alamo and Goliad, and again the shouts of "Remember the Alamo!, Remember Goliad!" rose like a storm from the ranks.

In the midst of his speech Rusk stopped suddenly, saying, "I have done." The effect was profound. For a moment there was a tense hush, and then the whole army cheered and yelled.

No Further Doubt.

These speeches left no further doubt that a fight was at hand, and the patriots could hardly wait for it.

"After such talks," observed Major Alexander Somervell, "but damn few will be taken prisoners; I am sure of that."

Major McNutt was placed in charge of about 150 men, including a number of sick with measles and dysentery, to guard the wagons and camp equipage. They were left on the north side of the bayou, deep in the woods where they would not likely be seen by Mexicans expected to pass down the bayou to reinforce Santa Anna.

Then the main body of troops, numbering 900 or more, began crossing the stream at Batterson's below the mouth of Sim's, on an old ferry boat, repaired with lumber from Batterson's house, and a plank raft. The bayou there is about 350 feet wide and 15 feet deep.

General Houston passed over with the first or second boat load. Colonel Rusk remained until the last to assist in the passage, toiling earnestly. Only the cavalry horses and those needed to pull the "Twin Sisters" and an ammunition wagon were taken. The men swam the horses across the bayou.

Line of March.

All the forces were over by dusk, and with three days' rations the army took up the line of march. Slowly and silently the motley procession of shaggy pioneers plodded from the road down through the boggy woods. It was a grotesque army, boasting only two military uniforms, neither of which belonged to the commander in chief. The others were clad in worn-out homespuns and buckskins, coonskin caps and wide-brimmed hats, boots and brogans. With their long squirrel rifles, pistols, knives and few swords they looked more like a mob of peasants marching forth to storm a citadel than the army of an independent republic, advancing to meet the proud legions of the "Napoleon of the West."

The march continued until some of the infantry were so exhausted that they were stumbling and falling in ranks. A two-hours' halt was made for rest; then the general gave three beats on the drum, the signal to resume marching, and the column pushed on toward Lynch's, their way lighted only by the misty light of an April moon. At Vince's bayou they found the ashes of the campfires where Santa Anna and his forces had halted two nights ago.

Given Merciful Order.

As the night wore on, a chill north wind made the Texians shiver. On and on they struggled until they could scarcely lift their mud-loaded feet. Then, at about midnight, they were given a merciful order to halt. Down on the wet ground they sank, without eating, and lapsed into unconsciousness.

General Houston lay on his saddle blanket, using his saddle for a pillow, with no covering or shelter.

Here at a spot on the tree-studded plain which in the sunny daytime is resplendent with the greenery and the gay wild flowers of spring, but tonight is cold and damp, the army of Texas awaits the struggle which is expected to determine the fate of the new republic.

Today General Houston arrested Major James H. Perry, the aide whose letter censuring the commander was intercepted at Groce's last week. Perry had ridden out ahead of the guard, "to learn something of the enemy." The guard seized him and brought him back.

"Consider yourself arrested, and give me your pistols," said Houston. "I believe you have been in communication with the enemy."

Perry protested that he had not, but for the time being he was held in custody.

Today General Houston sent a letter to his friend, Colonel Henry Raguet, of Nacogdoches, saying:

We Go to Conquer.

"Sir: This morning we are in preparation to meet Santa Anna. It is the only chance of saving Texas. From time to time I have looked for reinforcements in vain. The convention adjourning to Harrisburg struck panic throughout the country. Texas could have started at least 4000 men. We will only have about 700 to march with, besides the camp guard. We go to conquer. It is wisdom growing out of necessity to meet the enemy now; every consideration enforces it. No previous occasion would justify it. The troops are in fine spirits, and now is the time for action.

"We shall use our best efforts to fight the enemy to such advantage as will insure victory, though the odds are greatly against us. I leave the results in the hands of a wise God, and rely upon His providence.

"My country will do justice to those who serve her. The rights for which we fight will be secured, and Texas free."

Colonel Rusk issued an urgent appeal to the people of Texas, outlining the situation and saying:

Fate of Our Army.

"A few hours more will decide the fate of our army, and what an astonishing fact it is, that, at the very moment when the fate of your wives, your children, your honors, your country, and all that is dear to a freeman, are suspended upon the issue of one battle, not one-fourth of the people (men) of Texas are in the army! Are you Americans? Are you freemen? If you are, prove your blood and birth by rallying at once to your country's standard! Your general is at the head of a brave and chivalrous band, and throws himself, sword in hand, into the breach, to save his country and vindicate her rights. Enthusiasm prevails in the army, but I look around and see that many, very many, whom I had anticipated would be first in the field, are not here.

"Rise up at once, concentrate, and march to the field. . . ."

To this ringing challenge, General Houston added this postscript:

"We view ourselves on the eve of battle. We are nerved for the contest, and must conquer or perish. It is vain to look for present aid; none is at hand. We must now act, or abandon all hope! Rally to the standard, and be no longer the scoff of mercenary tongues! Be men, be freemen, that your children may bless their fathers' names!"

San Jacinto

Tense Atmosphere of Eager Suspense Envelops Camp of Little Army Near Buffalo Bayou

INFO

Skirmishes Produce No Decisive Results but Spirit of Entire Patriot Band Raised to Highest Degree.

Post 4-21-36

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TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Lynch's Ferry, April 20, 1836.—Sharp cavalry clashes and artillery exchanges, foreshadowing the long-awaited death struggle between the armies of General Sam Houston of Texas and President Santa Anna of Mexico, attended the approach of the opposing forces within sight of each other here today.

A tense atmosphere of eager suspense tonight enveloped the Texian camp here on the rolling green wooded plain near Buffalo bayou. The fate of the new republic is in the balances, and the hand of destiny seems ready to strike one of the scales tomorrow.

Skirmishes today produced no decisive results and few casualties, but the superior bravery demonstrated by the Texian participants over the swarthy Mexican dragoons raised the esprit de corps of the entire patriot army to the highest degree.

Out of a hot encounter between the opposing cavalry divisions emerged a new luminary in the Texas military constellation—Mirabeau B. Lamar, a dashing newcomer from Georgia. He displayed rare valor in the engagement, and his heroism in saving the life of Walter P. Lane, an Irish lad of 19, was the talk of the camp tonight.

Sidney Sherman, the brilliant young colonel of cavalry—the only member of the army but one wearing a full military uniform—led the 85 mounted men in two flying assaults upon the enemy, acquitting himself gallantly.

At the tap of General Houston's drum at dawn this morning, the Texians rose from the wet ground, where they had slept exhausted since midnight, and resumed their march down the south side of Buffalo bayou to block the enemy's crossing at Lynch's.

After several miles' tramping a halt was called for breakfast. Guns were checked, three cows found in the woods were shot for beef, and fires were kindled. Half-pounded coffee was poured into pots of brackish water; some of the men had found corn. The ravenously hungry "army of the people" prepared for its first meal since noon yesterday.

Before they had time to eat, however, spies galloped into camp shouting: "To arms, to your arms. The enemy is coming up from the bay!"

Gulp Down Black Coffee.

Some of the soldiers gulped down their half-cooked boiling coffee and all seized their arms and rushed to their posts. The scouts reported that only the advance guard of the enemy was in sight, but Houston ordered the army to march on to the ferry without breakfast. About 40 cavalrymen were sent ahead at a gallop.

Facing the prospect of action, the riflemen began examining their rifles, finding that they required fresh priming; some discharged their guns for the purpose of reloading. Soon there was a veritable roar of musketry, echoing across the bayou.

The noise brought the commander-in-chief on the run. "Stop that firing!" he shouted in his stentorian voice. "Stop that firing, I say; damn you, stop it!"

"Our guns have been loaded two days," one bold spirit replied, "and the powder charges are wet. We can't meet the enemy with them in that condition." And then, before his very face, bang went another gun, and still another.

The wrathful general straightened to his full six feet six and drew his sword. "I'll run through the next man that fires!" he roared.

Farther along the marchers descried a dim smoke in the distance ahead. At first Houston thought it was a prairie fire, but concluded the smoke came from buildings at New Washington, fired by the Mexicans.

Army Pitches Camp.

At 10 a. m. the army halted and pitched camp on high ground in a skirt of timber commanding the ferry, the various units taking strategic positions, to await the enemy.

At about the same time the advance, having reached the ferry, saw a flatboat coming up the bayou. The Texians hid and ambushed the craft, hailing its passengers to come ashore. When they failed to heed the command, a volley of musketry sent them diving into the water and swimming for the opposite shore—all but one. "Don't shoot, don't shoot!" he cried. "I'm an American."

The boat was pulled in to shore. The man said he was a printer of the Telegraph, at Harrisburg. The others were Mexicans, and the boat was laden with supplies from Morgan's warehouse at New Washington, sent upstream for the enemy.

At Colonel Rusk's call for two volunteers, Walter Lane and William Crittenden ventured to swim across and bring back a pirogue, tied near a house on the opposite bank where the Mexican boatmen had taken refuge. Nearing the far shore, Lane was confronted by a big alligator that rose squarely in front of him. That only hastened his passage. The two crept up under the bank, untied the boat and brought it over. Rusk sent a detail of men back in the boat to capture the Mexicans. They succeeded.

The captured flatboat provided the Texians with much needed provisions, including coffee and the first flour most of them had eaten in weeks. Mixing the flour with water, they made dough and baked it on hot embers.

Early in the afternoon the enemy's approach was heralded by the lively strains of Mexican music, wafted on the spring breeze from the marching military band. Colonel Sherman and the mounted men, who had been reconnoitering, rode up and reported that the enemy was near.

Soon the Mexican cavalry hove into view, moving through the open prairie about a mile to the southeast. Striking the Texians' trail, they advanced in fine order, with trumpets sounding.

As the dragoons approached, some 60 Texians stood before the "Twin Sisters," ready for action. Most of the other men lay flat in the grass, to hide their force as much as possible. General Houston paced back and forth, uneasily shifting his gaze from the advancing enemy to the two little cannon, and back again. A deadly stillness enveloped the Texian camp; the only sounds heard were the notes of the Mexican music, and the shrilling blasts of the bugle.

"Are you ready?" asked Houston, addressing Captains Isaac Moreland and J. C. Neill, commanding the artillery.

"It's not time yet," replied Moreland; "they're too far away."

Dr. N. D. Labadie, regimental surgeon and a messmate of Moreland's, suggested that the guns were aimed too high; but before they could be sufficiently lowered, General Houston barked the command, "Clear the guns and fire!"

The two little guns from Cincinnati belched forth their charges of iron slugs, but the only effect was to cause the Mexican cavalry to wheel and return to the approaching main body, without casualties.

Disappointed at this result, the Texians now raised a clamor to charge the enemy on his own ground. But at this crucial moment the dumfounding word went down the line that there was to be no fight after all; the Patriot army was to cross the bayou and avoid the Mexicans.

"Get All Axes in Camp!"

Dr. Labadie said he met Colonel G. W. Hockley, the commander's right-hand man, who was handing a letter to an express and saying to him: "Get all the axes in camp, and bring the flatboat down tonight. Cross over, and go as quick as Almighty God will let you!"

It was understood that the plan and purpose of this was to cut trees and build some sort of bridge or raft to enable the army to cross. Some of the men protested that not a tree would be cut, but that they would give battle.

A Mexican 12-pound brass piece was advanced to a clump of oaks, nearly half way between the two armies, and opened up on the Texians with grape. The "Twin Sisters" returned the fire, this time with better results, killing two enemy mules, shattering their ammunition box and doing other damage. Captain Neill was the only Texian injured in an hour's exchange. He was struck by a grape shot.

Next a force of Mexicans slipped forward into a wood only about 100 yards from Houston's army. Colonel Sherman took his mounted men to charge them. Entering the timber, they found the enemy concealed in a thicket, too dense for the horses to enter. The Mexicans opened fire, killing several horses. One of them was ridden by E. T. Branch, a prominent colonist. He picked himself up from the ground, recoveerd his rifle, and ran so fast to his comrades that they laughed heartily.

"I never had so tall a fall before," he gasped, joining in the laughter.

At this point the "Twin Sisters" found the range of the woods and the Mexicans beat a hasty retreat to their camp.

A few minutes later the enemy tried another sortie, sending a large column rapidly forward to within 150 yards of the Texian cannon. The "Twin Sisters" opened on them, and they wheeled and fell back double quick. A triumphant shout went up from the patriot ranks.

Retiring his forces to a position

H-B 108. Mem.

near the river, a mile or less from Houston's encampment, Santa Anna flung his men across the plain in battle order, and made breastworks of his camp equipage and wagons.

"Feels" Out Enemy.

Late in the afternoon Colonel Sherman, evidently eager to bring on a general engagement, took the cavalry out to "feel" the enemy and attempt to capture their advanced artillery. Before they got started the Mexicans withdrew their cannon, leaving their cavalry out in front on the prairie.

The dragoons rode forth to meet them, waving swords and shouting, "Americanos, vene usted!" (Come here.) The Texians advanced, Sherman gave the order to charge, and forward they thundered, yelling. The dragoons promptly turned tail and fell back to their infantry, which opened fire.

The mounted Texas riflemen fell back and dismounted to reload. While they were on the ground the dragoons, reinforced, rushed down upon them. Springing into their saddles, the colonist met them fiercely and drove them back the second time.

By this time the Texian artillery and some of the infantry were beginning to advance, to aid the cavalry if necessary. And across the prairie a Mexican bugle was repeatedly sounding "no quarter," and the enemy infantry was moving forward swiftly, to cut off Sherman's 70-odd cavalry. It looked as if a real battle was about to start. The opposing artillery was roaring intermittently, spitting grapeshot; rifles and escopetas were cracking and banging all over the plain; foot soldiers were running, kneeling and firing, and horsemen were galloping and wheeling.

However, the Texian reinforcements were too slow, and Sherman found it necessary to retreat to avoid being cut off and overwhelmed. But as the cavalry turned back, one excited horse took the bit in his teeth and kept running headlong straight toward the enemy. Young Lane, the rider, coming into close quarters with the dragoons, warded off a saber blow and with his empty pistol knocked the attacker from his horse. Just then a Mexican lancer charged him, running him through the shoulder and knocking him off his horse. "Carajo Americano!" yelled the uniformed Mexican.

Lamar Goes to Aid.

Private Mirabeau Lamar, seeing his young comrade's plight, quickly galloped back to assist him. Just as Lane fell, stunned, Lamar dashed up, and shot the lancer. Thinking the lad dead, Lamar then fell back with the command. But in a few moments Lane regained his feet and his senses at the same time.

"Twenty Mexicans were around me when I rose," he related to his comrades a little while later, "but it was so surprising to them to see a dead boy rise to his feet and run like a buck that I got 10 steps before they fired at me. Captain Karnes saw me coming and ordered his company to wheel and fire on my pursuers, which they did, killing a few. The balance halted. An old man told me, 'Son, get up behind; I reckon the old mare can take us both out.' I did."

This ended the fighting for the day, both sides retiring. Besides Lane, two Texians were wounded; Owlyn J. Trask and E. J. Woodlief. Trask's wound was serious.

Intense excitement prevailed in the Texian camp after the day's clashes. But most of the men, fatigued from their strenuous exertions, retired early to make up for last night's loss of sleep. A final decisive struggle is expected tomorrow.

+ + +

MEXICAN HEADQUARTERS, near Lynch's Ferry, April 20, 1836.—President Santa Anna's column clashed with the enemy in skirmishes here today, without a general engagements or decisive results.

Learning from Captain Marcos Barragan, who led an advance of dragoons to Lynch's, the General Sam Houston's army was approaching, Santa Anna hastily marched his forces up the bayou or river—"San Jacinto," he calls it—to intercept them.

Official statements are conflicting as to whether El President's purpose was to keep Houston from crossing and returning to the Trinity, or to cross himself and push on to Anahuac.

It was about 8 a. m. when Captain Barragan dashed at New Washington and reported that Houston's troops were nearing Lynch's, and had captured some of the Mexican infantry who had fallen out on the forced march from Harrisburg here. The Mexicans here had burned the warehouse and houses and were ready for the march.

"The Enemy Are Coming."

On receiving Barragan's report Santa Anna mounted his charger and galloped along the lines at full speed, excitedly shouting, "The enemy are coming, the enemy are coming!"

Swinging out on the prairie, the bluecoats were formed in a column of attack, amid confusion and contradictory orders. Rapidly they marched forth in search of the enemy. Santa Anna, feeling that the men's knapsacks would impede their movement, ordered them discarded along the road.

At about 2 p. m. the Texian pickets were descried in the edge of a wood not far from Lynch's ferry. The Mexican advance opened fire, and the enemy returned it, falling back in the woods.

Santa Anna, coming up with the main army, prepared to attack at once, but the enemy was hid in the timber. His 12-pounder was placed on an elevation and unlimbered. Texian artillery returned its fire.

Selects Camping Ground.

His excellency selected a camping ground along the river, about a mile from the enemy, and divested his whole force in battle order, taking advantage of mots of trees that dot the flower-decked green prairie.

General Cos has not yet arrived from Fort Bend with the 500 reinforcements ordered by Santa Anna a few days ago. The Mexican force here numbers few more than 700 men, all infantry except 70 odd dragoons.

Some of the Mexican officers here fear that the president has chosen an awkward position. Moving down from the high ground along the road from the bay, he established camp with his back to a marsh skirting the bay into which San Jacinto river debouches, making retreat impossible. Some guarded criticism of Santa Anna's strategy was heard in camp this evening.

Santa Anna hopes to avoid a general engagement until Cos' reinforcements arrive.

T-History

Cavalry Clash

Tense Atmosphere of Eager Suspense Envelops Camp of Little Army Near Buffalo Bayou

Skirmishes Produce No Decisive Results but Spirit of Entire Patriot Band Raised to Highest Degree.

H. P.
4/21/36

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TEXIAN HEADQUARTERS, Lynch's Ferry, April 20, 1836.—Sharp cavalry clashes and artillery exchanges, foreshadowing the long-awaited death struggle between the armies of General Sam Houston of Texas and President Santa Anna of Mexico, attended the approach of the opposing forces within sight of each other here today.

A tense atmosphere of eager suspense tonight enveloped the Texian camp here on the rolling green wooded plain near Buffalo bayou. The fate of the new republic is in the balances, and the hand of destiny seems ready to strike one of the scales tomorrow.

Skirmishes today produced no decisive results and few casualties, but the superior bravery demonstrated by the Texian participants over the swarthy Mexican dragoons raised the esprit de corps of the entire patriot army to the highest degree.

Out of a hot encounter between the opposing cavalry divisions emerged a new luminary in the Texas military constellation—Mirabeau B. Lamar, a dashing newcomer from Georgia. He displayed rare valor in the engagement, and his heroism in saving the life of Walter P. Lane, an Irish lad of 19, was the talk of the camp tonight.

Sidney Sherman, the brilliant young colonel of cavalry—the only member of the army but one wearing a full military uniform—led the 85 mounted men in two flying assaults upon the enemy, acquitting himself gallantly.

At the tap of General Houston's drum at dawn this morning, the Texians rose from the wet ground, where they had slept exhausted since midnight, and resumed their march down the south side of Buffalo bayou to block the enemy's crossing at Lynch's.

After several miles' tramping a halt was called for breakfast. Guns were stacked, three cows found in the woods were shot for beef, and fires were kindled. Half-pounded coffee was poured into pots of brackish water; some of the men had found eggs. The ravenously hungry "army of the people" prepared for its first meal since noon yesterday.

Before they had time to eat, however, spies galloped into camp shouting, "To arms, to your arms. The enemy is coming up from the bay!"

Gulp Down Black Coffee.

Some of the soldiers gulped down half-cooked boiling coffee and all seized their arms and rushed to their posts. The scouts reported that only the advance guard of the enemy was in sight, but Houston ordered the army to march on to the ferry without breakfast. About 40 cavalrymen were sent ahead at a gallop.

Facing the prospect of action, the soldiers began examining their rifles. Finding that they required fresh priming, some discharged their guns for the purpose of reloading. Soon there was a veritable roar of musketry, fired across the bayou.

The noise brought the commander-in-chief on the run. "Stop that firing!" he shouted in his stentorian voice. "Stop that firing, I say; damn you, stop it!"

"Our guns have been loaded two weeks," one bold spirit replied, "and the charges are wet. We can't meet the enemy with them in that condition." And then, before his very face, bang went another gun, and still another.

The wrathful general straightened to his full six feet six and drew his sword. "I'll run through the next man that fires!" he roared.

Farther along the marchers descried a dim smoke in the distance ahead. At first Houston thought it was a prairie fire, but concluded the smoke came from buildings at New Washington, fired by the Mexicans.

Army Pitches Camp.

At 10 a. m. the army halted and pitched camp on high ground in a skirt of timber commanding the ferry, the various units taking strategic positions, to await the enemy.

At about the same time the advance, having reached the ferry, saw a flatboat coming up the bayou. The Texians hid and ambushed the craft, hailing its passengers to come ashore. When they failed to heed the command, a volley of musketry sent them diving into the water and swimming for the opposite shore—all but one. "Don't shoot, don't shoot!" he cried. "I'm an American."

The boat was pulled in to shore. The man said he was a printer of the Telegraph, at Harrisburg. The others were Mexicans, and the boat was laden with supplies from Morgan's warehouse at New Washington, sent upstream for the enemy.

At Colonel Rusk's call for two volunteers, Walter Lane and William Crittenden ventured to swim across and bring back a pirogue, tied near a house on the opposite bank where the Mexican boatmen had taken refuge. Nearing the far shore, Lane was confronted by a big alligator that rose squarely in front of him. That only hastened his passage. The two crept up under the bank, untied the boat and brought it over. Rusk sent a detail of men back in the boat to capture the Mexicans. They succeeded.

The captured flatboat provided the Texians with much needed provisions, including coffee and the first flour most of them had eaten in weeks. Mixing the flour with water, they made dough and baked it on hot embers.

Early in the afternoon the enemy's approach was heralded by the lively strains of Mexican music, wafted on the spring breeze from the marching military band. Colonel Sherman and the mounted men, who had been reconnoitering, rode up and reported that the enemy was near.

Mexicans Come Into View.

Soon the Mexican cavalry hove into view, moving through the open prairie about a mile to the southeast. Striking the Texians' trail, they advanced in fine order, with trumpets sounding.

As the dragoons approached, some 60 Texians stood before the "Twin Sisters," ready for action. Most of the other men lay flat in the grass, to hide their force as much as possible. General Houston paced back and forth, uneasily shifting his gaze from the advancing enemy to the two little cannon, and back again. A deadly stillness enveloped the Texian camp: the only sounds heard were the notes of the Mexican music, and the shrilling blasts of the bugle.

"Are you ready?" asked Houston, addressing Captains Isaac Moreland and J. C. Neill, commanding the artillery.

"It's not time yet," replied Moreland; "they're too far away."

Dr. N. D. Labadie, regimental surgeon and a messmate of Moreland's, suggested that the guns were aimed too high; but before they could be sufficiently lowered, General Houston barked the command, "Clear the guns and fire!"

The two little guns from Cincinnati belched forth their charges of iron slugs, but the only effect was to cause the Mexican cavalry to wheel and return to the approaching main body, without casualties.

Disappointed at this result, the Texians now raised a clamor to charge the enemy on his own ground. But at this crucial moment the dumfounding word went down the line that there was to be no fight after all; the Patriot army was to cross the bayou and avoid the Mexicans.

"Get All Axes in Camp!"

Dr. Labadie said he met Colonel G. W. Hockley, the commander's right-hand man, who was handing a letter to an express and saying to him: "Get all the axes in camp, and bring the flatboat down tonight. Cross over, and go as quick as Almighty God will let you!"

It was understood that the plan and purpose of this was to cut trees and build some sort of bridge or raft to enable the army to cross. Some of the men protested that not a tree would be cut, but that they would give battle.

A Mexican 12-pound brass piece was advanced to a clump of oaks, nearly half way between the two armies, and opened up on the Texians with grape. The "Twin Sisters" returned the fire, this time with better results, killing two enemy mules, shattering their ammunition box and doing other damage. Captain Neill was the only Texian injured in an hour's exchange. He was struck by a grape shot.

Next a force of Mexicans slipped forward into a wood only about 100 yards from Houston's army. Colonel Sherman took his mounted men to charge them. Entering the timber, they found the enemy concealed in a thicket, too dense for the horses to enter. The Mexicans opened fire, killing several horses. One of them was ridden by E. T. Branch, a prominent colonist. He picked himself up from the ground, recoveerd his rifle, and ran so fast to his comrades that they laughed heartily.

"I never had so tall a fall before," he gasped, joining in the laughter.

At this point the "Twin Sisters" found the range of the woods and the Mexicans beat a hasty retreat to their camp.

A few minutes later the enemy tried another sortie, sending a large column rapidly forward to within 150 yards of the Texian cannon. The "Twin Sisters" opened on them, and they wheeled and fell back double quick. A triumphant shout went up from the patriot ranks.

Retiring his forces to a position near the river, a mile or less from Houston's encampment, Santa Anna flung his men across the plain in battle order, and made breastworks of his camp equipage and wagons.

"Feels" Out Enemy.

Late in the afternoon Colonel Sherman, evidently eager to bring on a general engagement, took the cavalry out to "feel" the enemy and attempt to capture their advanced artillery. Before they got started the Mexicans withdrew their cannon, leaving their cavalry out in front on the prairie.

The dragoons rode forth to meet them, waving swords and shouting, "Americanos, vene usted!" (Come here.) The Texians advanced, Sherman gave the order to charge, and forward they thundered, yelling. The dragoons promptly turned tail and fell back to their infantry, which opened fire.

The mounted Texas riflemen fell back and dismounted to reload. While they were on the ground the dragoons, reinforced, rushed down upon them. Springing into their saddles, the colonist met them fiercely and drove them back the second time.

By this time the Texian artillery and some of the infantry were beginning to advance, to aid the cavalry if necessary. And across the prairie a Mexican bugle was repeatedly sounding "no quarter," and the enemy infantry was moving forward swiftly, to cut off Sherman's 70-odd cavalry. It looked as if a real battle was about to start. The opposing artillery was roaring intermittently, spitting grapeshot, rifles and escopetas were crackling and banging all over the plain; foot soldiers were running, kneeling and firing, and horsemen were galloping and wheeling.

However, the Texian reinforcements were too slow, and Sherman found it necessary to retreat to avoid being cut off and overwhelmed. But as the cavalry turned back, one excited horse took the bit in his teeth and kept running headlong straight toward the enemy. Young Lane, the rider, coming into close quarters with the dragoons, warded off a saber blow and with his empty pistol knocked the attacker from his horse. Just then a Mexican lancer charged him, running him through the shoulder and knocking him off his horse. "Carajo Americano!" yelled the uniformed Mexican.

Lamar Goes to Aid.

Private Mirabeau Lamar, seeing his young comrade's plight, quickly galloped back to assist him. Just as Lane fell, stunned, Lamar dashed up and shot the lancer. Thinking the lad dead, Lamar then fell back with the command. But in a few moments Lane regained his feet and his senses at the same time.

"Twenty Mexicans were around me when I rose," he related to his comrades a little while later, "but it was so surprising to them to see a dead

MUSEUM OF TEXAS HISTORY TO OPEN HERE

Relics and Documents Will Be Exhibited Temporarily at Library; Gifts to Institution Announced.

H.C. 4/12/36

The Museum of Houston and Texas History, partially filled with valuable relics and documents, will be formally opened at 10:20 a.m. Wednesday in the west wing of the Public Library.

A number of relics of considerable historic interest have been promised to the museum.

Included is a gold pencil which once belonged to Gen. Sam Houston. This pencil now is in the possession of the Ellis family, friends of the Houstons since before the days of the American revolution.

Mrs. James Brown of La Porte, granddaughter of Benjamin Harrison Ellis, Indian commissioner under General Houston's administration, has promised to place the pencil in the museum. It was handed down from her grandfather to her father, Rev. J. H. H. Ellis, chaplain of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and then to her brother, Rev. Neal Ellis, Baptist minister of San Antonio.

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Friends and Neighbors.

"I have permission," she said, "to place the pencil in the museum. It was given by General Houston in 1847 to my grandfather and my uncle, Col. Joseph Ellis, both of whom served as Indian commissioners under General Houston. They were neighbors of General Houston on plantations in Liberty County, and long had been friends."

General Houston's father and the father of the Ellis brothers fought together in the American revolution, Mrs. Brown said.

Mrs. Brown states she is descended on the Ellis side from William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania. She called at the San Jacinto Centennial Association headquarters in the Chamber of Commerce Building Saturday, wearing a pendant which she says belonged to the ancestors of William Penn in England. This pendant is a gold basket of flowers, elaborately woven in gold. It originally was made as a watch fob. She states she also has in her possession part of the George Washington silverware, her ancestors having been related to Martha Washington.

The gold pencil has a head of amethyst on which is inscribed the personal seal of General Houston —the letter "H" in old English and "ever thine." The name "Sam Houston" is inscribed on the side of the pencil. Mrs. Brown also has Houston's letter to her uncle in which the presentation was announced.

A Bible printed in 1830 and used in Nacogdoches for swearing in Texas officers has been obtained for the museum, Miss Estelle Anderson, secretary of the museum committee, announced. The Bible belonged to Mrs. Ford Clevenger of 4822 Fannin.

A long rifle picked up 30 years ago on the San Jacinto Battleground where it was found half buried in the sand also has been given to the museum, Miss Anderson stated. This gun has a plate on the side with this inscription, "Lehman, Lanstr, Pennsylvania, 1775." It was presented by Joe Fasalla of Morgans Point. It probably was used by the Texans at San Jacinto.

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Picture of S. F. Austin.

An autographed picture of Stephen F. Austin, "father of Texas," was presented to the museum by Mrs. William Kidd of Houston.

"We also will have a number of relics which belonged to Gen. Santa Anna, the Mexican commander, in the museum," Miss Anderson stated.

The museum will occupy quarters in the public library until the San Jacinto Memorial Shaft is completed at the battleground. The $900,000 shaft will provide a permanent home for the museum.

George D. Sears is chairman of the committee which is obtaining relics and historical documents. Mrs. Roy L. Arterbury is chairman of the general museum committee.

Hill Tells Story of San Jacinto Battle Heard Many Times at Grandsire's Knee

Warrior Was Head of Commission Buying Field.

POST-4-16-36

A grandson of a soldier of San Jacinto Wednesday told the story of the famous battle, as his grandfather many times had recounted it.

He was George A. Hill Jr., who addressed the Kiwanians at their Rice hotel luncheon.

Mr. Hill's grandfather, Colonel James Monroe Hill, served as chairman of the San Jacinto commission, which purchased the battle field for the state, and his father, George A. Hill, was secretary of the group.

Fifty-eight years after the battle, Colonel Hill returned on a peaceful summer day in 1894 to the greatly changed stage of the staggering drama in which he had played, with 782 others, the grim role of a soldier fighting for his people's freedom.

He found the battle ground fixtures lost in the dense timber of the years, and the bloody scene upon which the curtain of April 21, 1836, had fallen, was changed to a pastoral one.

But the triumph of the performance could not be forgotten in 58 years—or 5800 years.

Wednesday, while those present considered the "million dollar" memorial to be erected on the grounds to stand through time as monumental to the encounter, Mr. Hill quoted from a letter which that trip, 58 years after the battle, may have inspired:

"What character of man would withhold gratitude to his ancestry, or the placing of a shaft bearing evidence of the place of their interment? What character of man can today accept, by inheritance, the grand privileges wrought by those men on that sacred spot, and be so devoid of patriotism that he would withhold his support to commemorate such a glorious event?

"Thank God, but few of such men live in our state.

"Abiding Faith."

"We have an abiding faith that you will see that the good work which you have so graciously commenced shall receive due consideration by succeding bodies."

The letter was one of thanks, written on May 7, 1897, to the governor and legislature, and Mr. Hill pointed out Wednesday that his grandfather's letter was "truly prophetic" of the celebration to take place on the battle ground next Tuesday.

"I am deeply sensible to the honor that you do me in inviting me to address you, upon the eve of the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto," Mr. Hill said. "By heritage, by environment, and by long and appreciative contemplation, that occasion has sustained in me for many years a feeling of heightened pride of lineage, of race and of country, and in the institutions of Anglo-Saxon freedom preserved by that epochal and heroic conflict.

Action Was Imperative.

"With the declaration of independence at Washington on the Brazos on March 2, 1836, the colonists of Texas sealed their doom or their salvation. The swift march of events and an onrushing and conquering enemy made their action imperative—and the siege of the Alamo made all hope of a peaceful solution vanish. By action of the convention, Sam Houston was made the commander-in-chief of the army of Texas—a veritably non-existent entity, and he proceeded at once, with an escort of three men, to Gonzales to recruit, equip, train and maneuver his prospective command in such fashion as to serve his two-fold purpose, viz.:

"First: To cover the flight of the women and children, the sick and the aged, and the official personnel of the government before the armies of the destroying invaders; and

"Second: To organize a strategic retreat, under the delay of which he might hope to deceive and divide the enemy, and develop an effective fighting force, capable of achieving victory whenever a fortuitous opportunity could be contrived.

Consternation Spread.

"The annihilation of the defenders of the Alamo on March 6, and the massacre at Goliad on March 27 spread terror and consternation, and Houston's retreat from Gonzales began, largely composed of an army of striplings of the average age of 20, from which there were defections and additions while marching to San Felipe de Austin, but which army numbered 783 on the fateful day at San Jacinto.

"You will remember the burning of San Felipe, upon Houston's retreat; the delays on the Colorado and the Brazos; and the indescribable hardships from cold, rain, hunger, swollen streams and sickness; also the arrival on Buffalo bayou, opposite Harrisburg, on the day following the burning of the town by General Santa Anna, as he hurried on to Morgans Point in pursuit of President Burnet who had evacuated Harrisburg with his government none too soon. These events were replete with incidents marked by superb courage, inflexible purpose, heroic suffering and uncanny vision, for indeed, the 'runaway scrape' (as the exodus of the civilians was called), had enjoyed the protection of Houston's retreating army, and Santa Anna's belief that the Texans were in full flight to Louisiana had caused him to mistake Houston's strength and purpose and to divide his own armies.

Understood Predicament.

"When Houston arrived at Harrisburg, he comprehended Santa Anna's predicament. After providing for his sick, and exhorting his troops to renewed efforts, he followed Santa Anna's course as far as the Lynchburg ferry, realizing that Santa Anna would have to return there from his camp at Morgan's Point to effect a crossing and that Houston's army could confront him there. Santa Anna, believing it to be Houston's purpose to also cross at Lynchburg in his supposed flight, and desiring to prevent this, hurried to Lynchburg to make his encampment and await reinforcements.

"On the afternoon of April 20th, there was skirmishing and brief but desultory firing; and Santa Anna's reinforcements under General Cos arrived during the night.

"On the morning of the 21st, Houston literally and figuratively burned his bridges. He sent Deaf Smith to destroy the bridge over Vince's bayou, the only avenue of escape for either army, and then restrained his forces until mid-afternoon for the attack.

"Remainder Is History."

"The remainder is history—unprecedented and imperishable!

"Seven hundred and eighty-three Texans launched an attack upon the armies of Santa Anna and Cos, totalling 1500 men, and in 18 minutes, killed 638, wounded 208, and captured 738, in a devastating defeat and rout of the Mexican forces that, in its awesome finality, crushed and forever removed tyrannical sovereignty over Texas, achieved the independence of the republic of Texas, made Santa Anna captive, and launched the movement for the territorial expansion of the United States and its constitutional government unrivalled in the history of our country, and eventually, added many millions of square miles to the area of the United States.

"The attack of the Texans was like the scourg of holy wrath.

"It's scorching fire was but one burst of avenging flame from the crucible of despotism into which had been poured the compound of a vicious tyranny, a stupid absolutism, a broken faith, and the excessive cruelties of insensate massacres by the unwanted masters of the Mexican people—they, themselves, the mere pawns of Santa Anna's ruthless dictatorship.

"And so, with the coming of peace, and the establishment of a beneficent government, the people of Texas progressed upon their way, enjoying the blessings of a bountiful nature and its yielding to the arts and the crafts and the sciences, until those who loved and revered its history realized that its priceless benefits might be lost, if its people forgot how painfully and perilously such liberties were purchased.

"And so it was that, as the years went on, only relatively few of our people realized the tremendous portent of the suffering, the privations, the heroism and the achievements of their pioneer forefathers and the glorious pages of history written in the lives and the exploits of those who fought for and founded the Texas Republic—and a scant little band, from year to year, reviewed and revived the lessons of our history, and, for its worth as a permanent lesson in patriotism, made countless pilgrimages to the battle field of San Jacinto, and urged its purchase and preservation by our state.

Appropriation Secured.

"After 61 years, the efforts of this faithful band of pioneers and their descendants secured, in 1897, during Governor Culberson's administration, a legislative appropriation of $10,000 for the purchase of the battle field. The newspapers of that day—40 years ago—record their meetings, their historical recollections, their hopes and plans. I exhibit to you a photograph then taken of Captain James Converse's ship upon which the veterans were taken to the battle field, and I am having passed among those present a reproduction of the newspaper accounts of the meetings of the veterans, and their recollections of the battle, and their identification of landmarks on the battle field, just prior to its purchase by the San Jacinto commission appointed by Governor Culberson. From all of this, you will sense their aspiration for a worthy monument on the site of the battle field, and their joy in its acquisition by the state, and their hope for what we are now upon the threshold of experiencing in worthy celebration and suitable recognition.

"The great field mass of the Catholic church, commemorating a century of civil and religious liberty; the dedicatory and commemorative exercises of the great Masonic orders; the patriotic program of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic; and of the San Jacinto Centennial association; the generous action of the state and federal governments—all of this is a fruition those blessed souls would have loved to live for.

"Truly Prophetic."

"My grandfather, James Monroe Hill, who was a veteran of the battle and the chairman of the San Jacinto commission who purchased the battle field for the state, in his letter of thanks on May 7, 1897, to the governor and the legislature, was truly prophetic of this happy day."

Reproductions of newspaper accounts of the purchase of the grounds by the state, as told in The Post of that period, were passed among those present.

Most colorful was the description of a visit of the commission to the site, when Colonel Hill viewed it for the first time since the historic day.

Said The Post:

"What a flood of memories of other days and other men, the sight of that famous spot must have awakened in the bosoms of that little band of survivors of the battle, who viewed it yesterday. With one exception, not one of them had been to the battle field since the day after that famous engagement in which Texas at one jump attained her independence and the men who fought there carved for themselves a monument in American history more lasting and resplendent than either marble or brass.

"The object of the visit to the battle field by a committee of the survivors of the battle was in obedience to a resolution passed at a Waco meeting of the Texas veterans to designate the exact location of the battle and gather other data with a view of a purchase by the state of this famous ground."

Excursion Recounted.

A clipping from The Post of 1894 told of an excursion to the battle field on July 4, planned by the Daughters of the Republic for the "enlargement of the fund to build a monument on the battle ground to the memory of the heroes who fell there in the struggle for Texas independence.

The commission, with Colonel Hill as chairman, was composed of Judge S. J. Hendrick of Henderson and Senator Waller T. Burns of this city.

Mr. Hill was introduced by L. W. Kemp, who said that, in going through a history book, he had found that there were four Hills who contributed their part in gaining independence for Texas. "They had to hog-tie one Hill to keep him out of the battle of San Jacinto, because he had the measles. It seemed that Texans were more afraid of the measles than the Mexicans."

Palmer Hutcheson was in charge of the program.

Ewing Werlein introduced a quartet, composed of Walter Jenkins, Mrs. Jenkins, Ernice Lawrence and Mrs. Ewing Werlein, who sang two numbers, accompanied by Miss Thelma Slocum. Fred Ankenman presided.

INFORMATION FILE San Jacinto

Bradley Says Santa Anna Expected Total Victory In Battle of San Jacinto

Chr. 4-17-36

The story of the battle of Ean Jacinto and its effect on history was told Thursday night by Rolland Bradley, former legislator, to the Exchange clubs of Houston and Galveston at a meeting on the battleground.

Bradley said: "The battle of San Jacinto constituted a complete reversal for Santa Anna in the campaign that he had previously considered a complete success for the Mexican forces. The then dictator of Mexico had taken the Alamo by killing all of the Texas soldiers who had defended it. Santa Anna had also taken Goliad in the same manner that he had ruthlessly destroyed the defenders of the Alamo. The president of Mexico led his troops victoriously toward Southeast Texas, and evidently was preparing to embark at Anahuac after having burned Harrisburg. Anahuac is located in what was then a flourishing part of Texas. the Mexican forces had actually reached the vicinity of Galveston Bay and were preparing to cross at Lynchs Ferry when they learned of Houston's approach.

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Texans Wants to Fight.

"Sam Houston marched toward Santa Anna by crossing the present Houston Ship Channel at or near what is now called Manchester. In those early days the stream was known as Buffalo River and later as Buffalo Bayou. Houston, after crossing to the south bank, marched down stream to meet Santa Anna. His command had not yet been in a general engagement with Santa Anna's forces, although his men had wanted to meet the enemy and were anxious to join battle. This was their spirit even after they had been exposed to rains and other hardships, and they were vastly outnumbered by Santa Anna's forces. In his official report Houston mentions that there were 783 Texas soldiers pitted against about 1500 of the enemy, some 500 of whom joined Santa Anna's forces on the morning of April 21, 1836, under General Cos. The main body of Santa Anna's forces had moved upstream on the 20th, and after some minor skirmishes they went into camp for the night.

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Houston Destroys Bridge.

"The next day at about 3:30 p.m. Sam Houston caused the destruction of the bridge crossing Vinces Bayou '. . . thus cutting off all possibility of escape,' to quote from Houston's official report. From this report it might be doubtful as to whether Houston referred to Santa Anna's escape with his army or the escape of the Texas forces, should the tide of battle go against them. In any event this action showed resolution on the part of Sam Houston and determination that the engagement must be decisive. Soon after this the Texas forces advanced toward Santa Anna's troops, who were thus taken by surprise.

"Some say that the Mexicans were engaged in the customary Spanish siesta or afternoon nap, while Mexican authorities indicate that the troops commanded by General Cos were watering their horses and resting on account of their exhaustion. In any event in the short period of 18 minutes the Texans were in possession of the Mexican camp, the Mexicans were in disorder and completely routed, and until twilight the Texans pursued them. Their batle cry was 'Remember the Alamo, remember Goliad,' and they had marched into battle under the song known as 'Come to the Bower.' Their flag, now hanging in the house of representatives of the state of Texas, portrayed a woman with a sabre extended and draped by a ribbon bearing the motto, 'Liberty or Death.' The lines of the Texas forces had advanced without pause until the Mexican breastworks were reached. Houston mentions that his troops had no bayonets, but Santa Anna contradicts the statement. In any event it seems that many of the Texans broke their guns on the heads of the Mexicans.

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Mexicans Utterly Defeated.

"The Mexicans were utterly defeated and in their despair they answered to the battle cry of the Texans, 'Me no Alamo, me no Goliad.' In the battle of San Jacinto the Texans had two killed and 23 wounded, six of them fatally. Of the Mexicans 630 were killed . . . 'very few having escaped,' according to Houston's report.

"Among the captured was Santa Anna. He was taken while clothed as a private soldier. In this disguise Santa Anna was not recognized until some of his own captured troops saw him and hailed him as their leader. Then Santa Anna was taken to Sam Houston, who at that time was suffering from a wound received during the engagement. With Santa Anna held as prisoner by the Texans, the campaign of the Mexican forces was at an end, Texas' independence was assured and the Republic of Texas was established."

Thousands See Display At Battle Site

H.P.
4/18/36

Fireworks Portray Episodes in State History.

Thousands of Texans Friday night at San Jacinto battle ground witnessed the spectacular pyrotechnic display, vividly portraying dramatic episodes in Texas history. The display was sponsored by the San Jacinto Centennial association.

Automobiles, four and five abreast from the battle ground to town, thronged the La Port highway. Thousands were unable to get within two miles of the battle ground. Parking facilities provided by the association were quickly filled and many nearby fields were thrown open. Many were turned away.

Centennial Salute.

Opening with the firing of a Centennial salute by aerial bombs and the illumination of the battle field with brilliantly colored flares, the show progressed rapidly. A huge lone star, symbolical of Texas, with a fiery inscription, "1836-1936," followed. Then came a rocket bouquet of many colors, the flares lasting for a full minute.

One of the featured presentations, General Sam Houston's portrait, brought much applause from the huge crowd. Following that, a display of rockets, aerial bombs, ascending magnesium flares and other displays lighted the shrine of Texas' independence with a swirling mass of color.

Two-hour Program.

Aerial effects filled the entire two-hour program, as many as three presentations being in action at the same time. Hanging chains and festoon rockets, releasing long streams of varicolored lights which floated in mid-air, changed the night into a noonday brightness. Sam Houston's old home was presented in a realistic picture in lines of colored fire.

The fall of the Alamo, one of the most dramatic chapters of Texas history, was re-enacted with the blinding flashes of cannon, a fiery bombardment scene and a realistic portrayal of the Mexican troops under Santa Anna as they stormed its walls. As the spectacle closed the famous battle cry of San Jacinto, "Remember the Alamo," blazed forth across the picture.

The fiery presentation of the battle of San Jacinto was the most elaborate of all the displays, lasting much longer than the others and occupying a space of 300 feet.

Battle Ground Site Purchase Recalls Story

H.P. 4/18/36

Houstonian Recounts Details of Sale by Syndicate.

The story of the state's acquisition of the San Jacinto battle ground from a Denver syndicate was related in Houston Friday by Colonel Thomas H. Ball, attorney.

"I read with interest the patriotic speech of G. A. Hill Jr., published in The Houston Post, with the map made by his grandfather, James Monroe Hill, a San Jacinto hero," Colonel Ball said.

"However, there are some facts within my knowledge which have not been fully mentioned in the numerous addresses which I have read or heard in connection with the purchase of the battle ground from a Denver syndicate," Colonel Ball explained.

"Headed by Mrs. J. J. McKeever, the Daughters of the Republic started a campaign to interest Texans in buying the consecrated site from the Denver syndicate before it was cut up for agricultural and industrial development," Colonel Ball went on.

"Judge Waller T. Burns, senator from Harris county and afterward federal district judge, was appealed to and he introduced a bill to purchase the battle ground and, aided by the Daughters of the Republic, the bill was passed.

"Attorney General Davidson agreed to accept my opinion upon the title. When the abstract was submitted to me, I found that there were excluded from it 14 acres on the banks of Buffalo bayou which included the camp of General Houston and which was covered by the beautiful trees from which his forces marched to victory," Colonel Ball stated.

Colonel Ball informed the Denver syndicate that unless the matter was straightened out that a suit would be filed. The syndicate then put in the channel frontage of 14 acres at $100 an acre and the attorney general approved the deal.

"Colonel Hill was appointed chairman of the commission to lay out the grounds and mark important spots and Judge S. J. Hendrix was his associate. How well they performed their mission is now a matter of common knowledge," Colonel Ball declared.

"The governor appointed Colonel Joe S. Rice, Captain S. S. Ashe and Mrs. Rosine Ryan as the first battle ground commissioners, the duties of which they discharged with great credit, as have their successors in office.

"All Texans take pride in the fact that Colonel A. J. Houston now lives near the scene where Texas won her independence and is the honorary supervisor thereof during the Centennial celebration now being observed."

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Post INFORMATION

aughters of Texas Pioneers

4-19-36

el Frank Andrews, noted attorney, here Wednesday addressed the meeting of the nd Daughters of Texas Pioneers. hearers were so much impressed, ouston Post takes pleasure in g in full Colonel Andrews' ad- it follows:

ccepted the invitation of your nt, to make a brief address on asion, with very great trepida- nd misgivings. I approach the of the Texas pioneer much as oach a holy shrine. Like the Ark Covenant, it stands upon sacred ; and those of us who are the aries of the foresight and and the tremendous courage of as heroes should approach this with feet unshod and head un-

his day 100 years removed from ne of action it is not difficult lyze the causes which led to r which finally separated the f Texas from the despotism of . Those causes began to accu- when the self-styled Napoleon West came into power in Mex- d came determined to put the n yoke on the Anglo-Saxon set- n Texas. Resistance was in- e, and persistence on the part of Anna made war inevitable. mede was the culmination of pirit of freedom in the Anglo- It was the declaration that of your own class, much less of a different race and a dif- class, shall never make serfs and of Anglo-Saxon people.

n Santa Anna imprisoned Ste- . Austin and violated every cov- that he had made with that great ario, he did it for the purpose midating the Texas people, of g them how he, Santa Anna, he Mexican dictator and the n government, proposed to deal people who asserted any inde- ce of thought or action, and to ur Texas settlers that a treaty with the Mexican government Santa Anna scarcely a "scrap er."

Santa Anna's Vision.

a Anna had wonderful visions ect to the future. He could see at area which now comprises ate of Texas and parts of Col- New Mexico, Arizona and Cali- as the great and prosperous of the Mexican empire which he d to establish; but he could not n and he could not understand glo-Saxon character and the in- ence of a race of people who d death to bondage. His illogi- nclusions based upon the false e of the American character y led him to his efforts for the tion and suppression of our this country. He organized a rmy to subjugate Texas. It was into many small armies and many small companies; and the many companies the "jay-hawkers" were more plentiful than the soldiers. The purpose was to intimidate and to subjugate, and when Santa Anna learned that over at Gonzales, the Lexington of Texas, the Texans had procured a small cannon and had the determination and the courage to use it upon his approaching soldiers, he sent a company to Gonzales to demand the surrender and delivery of the cannon to the Mexican soldiers. The aggregation of less than a hundred men concentrated at Gonzales, who complimented themselves by being called soldiers, sent Santa Anna the reply of the Anglo-Saxon to every oppressor—"Come and take it." After seriously considering the situation, the invitation contained in the reply was not accepted, and only a mild skirmish occurred where a serious attack had been planned.

In the meantime Austin had been released from prison, where he had been thrown and confined for many months, with bare sustenance and denied all possible communications and information of the outside world, simply because he had the temerity to demand the rights which were legally and morally his under solemn contracts and treaties made with him for the benefit of the Texas settlers, his sole offense being a demand for justice to which he was clearly entitled. After his release he made his way through the hardships and privations of the wilderness back to Texas, was mingling with the settlers and trying to instill hope into their hearts for better things and for the justice he had striven so to obtain; but the Mexican raiders were becoming more aggressive and more destructive and were making all of Austin's efforts for peace and justice more hopeless every day.

A so-called Texas army was assembled in October, 1835, consisting of such people as could be hastily brought together, each armed and equipped at his own expense, all poorly armed, poorly equipped and poorly clad. The Mexicans had taken Bexar and the original Texan organization was planned to recapture it. They marched on the town of San Antonio and at the Mission of Concepcion encountered a sizeable army of Mexican soldiers. As you doubtless know, the Mission of Concepcion is some four miles below what was then the town of Bexar, and what is now the city of San Antonio; and at that point a battle occurred between a portion of the Mexican army much larger than our whole army, so-called, in which a large number of Mexicans were killed and one Texas soldier lost his life in a bold and fearless effort to serve his country. The Mexicans retired into the city.

Without Experience.

Stephen F. Austin as commander-in-chief, not being a military man, being wholly without military experience, and acting upon the advice of his council did not pursue the Mexicans into San Antonio, but struck camp and awaited reinforcements. While awaiting reinforcements Milam and Johnson, chafing under the desire to go forward and the restraint of being forbidden to do so, taking a small company drifted south of San Antonio on some enterprise connected with the development of the Texas army. They returned to the camp at Concepcion a day before the assault was made by the Texans on the city of San Antonio, which commenced on November 26, 1835. To their amazement they found that nothing had been done by the Texas army and that no reinforcements had come. They proposed other councils of war. Those in authority hesitated. Milam had no authority. He held no official position and had no military title, but he had no fear. When the discussion had progressed to what seemed to be a doubtful issue among the officers, Milam drew a line and stood on a log and invited all of those who wanted to go with Ben Milam to San Antonio to get on his side of the line; and practically the entire army promptly marched to the Milam side. Milam and Johnson were made the commanders of the left and right wings, respectively, and planned the entry into San Antonio, and started on that very night, and after two days' fighting from house to house they captured the citadel, routed the Mexican army, took possession of the Alamo and of the entire city of San Antonio. The dead and wounded Texans were very few, but the greatest loss to the Texan army occurred in the slaying of Ben Milam, who was killed the second day of the fight. They made history for Texas freedom, and they set the record for the Texas patriots to follow. The Alamo was promptly manned and garrisoned by the Texans, and then the restless spirit of the Texans confined in inaction became too dominant and many Texas soldiers drifted out and drifted away in an effort to preserve settlements and properties in other communities, and the garrison became diminished until Santa Anna concluded that he could crush it. When Santa Anna decided that the time was ripe for the massacre of the garrison of the Alamo, he took a picked army and marched to San Antonio, surrounded the Alamo, and under a flag of truce sent a demand for the surrender at discretion of the little garrison with all that was in it. At the Alamo, then in command, was William Barrett Travis, and notwithstanding the small number of men inside the garrison and the picked army surrounding it, he answered the demand with a cannon shot—a cannon shot that was heard around the world, and a cannon shot that set the mark for progress of Anglo-Saxon civilization, and initiated the most heroic defense of their lines and their country that was ever displayed by any army in the whole world, ancient or modern. After eight days of continuous bombardment from the best modern equipment of the day and an army numbering more than ten times the little group of defenders on the inside,

the vast numbers finally scaled the walls, took the garrison, and put every living thing in it to the sword.

The next step was some two weeks after the destruction of the Alamo, on the sixth of March, 1836, when Fannin was surrounded by an army of more than five times his number, an army fully equipped and supplied with the implements of warfare; and after a terrific struggle and loss of many men, with ammunition exhausted, food consumed, and sustenance gone, Fannin and some three hundred of his men surrendered under a promise that they would be treated with the honor and protection of prisoners of war. These prisoners were returned by the Mexican army to the old prison of La Bahia, at Goliad, where they were kept under heavy guard for a few days, and on the twenty-seventh day of March, 1836, on Palm Sunday, they were marched out under the pretense of going home and brutally shot, clubbed and stabbed by their captors, until the last man who could be reached had died. A few from this awful massacre were able to make their escape. The Alamo died to the last man, and it was not through the humanity, the mercy or the generosity of Santa Anna that any living human being escaped at Goliad.

Peace and Industry.

While these and other similar events were rapidly transpiring in the western portion of our state, while the mailed fist of the Mexican soldier was being laid with crushing force upon the unarmed and poorly armed Anglo-Saxons who had accepted the Mexican government's contract for home, for fireside, and for family, where the efforts of industry might provide for the comforts of those dependent upon them and for a competence for old age, where the sole business of the Texas settlers was peace and frugality and industry, the squadrons of Mexican jayhawkers and divisions of Mexican armies were attacking them from the Rio Grande to the Colorado, and wiping out the settlers and engaging in a pitiless orgy of butchery and assassination to intimidate and drive to despair the settlers of the state who had come upon an invitation of the Mexican government, accepted as a solemn contract and who sought only peace, quiet, and the opportunity to make homes for themselves and families and the privilege of worshiping God according to the dictates of their own conscience.

The sequel shows, however, that Santa Anna little knew the stuff of which the Anglo-Saxon is made. It was inconceivable to his despotic mind that any man would elect to die striving for the right, in preference to living as a serf or a slave. It was inconceivable to him that any race of people could love their liberty, their freedom, their religious freedom, and the peace of God in their own consciences more than they should love life. He did not know the iron mold in which the Anglo-Saxon had been cast. He did not know that the Anglo-Saxon loved peace and liberty so much that he was ready to fight for the one and die for the other. Such characters were inconceivable to one of his despotic mind. So, having gloated over the destruction of the most gallant defenders of liberty that the world ever knew, and having congratulated himself and his country and his army upon the most dastardly and infamous assassination of Fannin and his men at Goliad, and having his appetite whetted by the taste of blood and his ambition fed by the success of the assassination, he set out to clear every Anglo-Saxon from the State of Texas—to clean it of the American settlers and patriots, from the Rio Grande to the Sabine.

In the meantime, however, the Texas patriots were not unmindful of the tremendous odds against them, nor of the terrific struggle and loss of life it would require to maintain themselves against the vast numbers of the Mexican army. On March 2, 1836, properly elected and accredited delegates from each settled district of the state assembled at Old Washington on the Brazos and adopted a ringing declaration of independence. They did not mince words, and did not waste time in argument. They knew what they had met for, and they proceeded to do it. And, having declared the independence of Texas from Mexico, they immediately formed a provisional government, elected their civil officers, and elected Sam Houston commander-in-chief of the Texas army. Then began the strenuous efforts to get an army together and equip it, so that it would be able to meet Santa Anna. The difficulty was not in the character of men our Texas patriots had to deal with. The difficulty was in finding the equipment. They had seen the Alamo die to the last man; they knew the character of the Texas patriot. They knew that when William Barrett Travis surrounded by Mexican hordes and defended by a pitiful handful of men sent out his famous letter to the civilized world, in which he declared: "I shall never surrender nor retreat," their fellow-patriots in Texas had accepted the declaration and were of the same faith and made of the same material, and that they could be depended upon also to the last man. It was not sufficient, however, that they had the courage and the fortitude to die for their country; they must live for it, fight for it, have something to fight with, and fight on the best terms obtainable against the tremendous odds and uneven numbers that confronted them in every part of the state. The greatest problem that confronted the commander-in-chief was not to find an army, for every male colonist was a potential soldier and courage was lacking in none. The great problems were to find food for the army, and to find the necessary equipment with which to do effective fighting. We must not forget that they were to meet an army fully trained and equipped and abundantly supplied with food and transportation, an army which did not conduct fighting along the lines of civilized warfare, but along the barbaric lines of indulging a lust to kill and destroy, and which believed that the highest accomplishment of a Mexican soldier was to deceive and destroy; to break every promise of honor, and by any deceptive means to take advantage, and through such means to wreck and destroy.

Houston's Motives.

Even in the light of the result of this conflict it is difficult to determine the motives that Houston had in many of the maneuvers of the Texas army. Even now it seems difficult to determine why he did not attack Santa Anna on the west side of the Brazos, and it hardly seems possible that human foresight could have been given Houston to envision the army of Santa Anna, fully equipped and fully armed and under command of the dictator himself, crossing the Brazos river and marching through the uninhabited prairies, across the swollen streams, to Galveston bay; and yet the march of Santa Anna and the retreat of Houston fitted so well together that it is difficult to translate Houston's conduct upon any other theory than that he expected to select the battle ground himself, get it as far from Mexican reinforcements as possible, and to gather as many patriot reinforcements as could be accumulated in the march. When Houston with his army crossed Buffalo bayou, almost 100 years ago today, and marched down the south side, he must have known that he was selecting a battle field, upon which should be fought the great battle for independence of Texas and its subsequent and resulting benefits to civilization, otherwise he would not have put the Texas army in a pocket where he knew it could not escape and where he believed it could successfully fight its way out; and when he burned Vince's bridge and cut off every avenue of retreat he knew that he had elected to pitch a final battle with Santa Anna, and had fixed a rendezvous with death. He certainly must have known then that he was selecting a battle ground and pitching one of the immortal battles of the world—a battle which gained for the United States of America approximately one-third of its present domain. I do not doubt that he knew that he was pitching a battle with the state of Texas as the prize, and that the prize would be delivered, if won, to the United States of America, and personally I do not doubt that his plans were well known at the White House, and that Andrew Jackson, then president of the United States, knew and approved the general course of Houston's conduct in Texas.

Communications in those days were not so good as at present, and it is difficult to know how Houston had gotten the location of Santa Anna's army from the swing he had made on the waters of Galveston bay up to the point which later became the battle field of San Jacinto. It is difficult to understand how Santa Anna struck camp in the timbers immediately confronting Houston's camp, when he must have known that Houston's camp was upon the bank of the bayou, less than a mile distant from his own, and manned by less than 783 poorly clothed and much more poorly armed and equipped soldiers without experience. Why Santa Anna did not go forward where retreat was impossible and make the attack on the Texas army on the first day of his arrival, history will never know. Why he permitted his army to encamp within a mile of the Texan camp and give the Texans the advantage of information obtained on the twentieth of April, is difficult now to understand. It must have been the result of a courage born of egotism, and a feeling of assurance on his part that he was not marching his army to battle, but that he was preparing for another assassination of Texas patriots. When General Houston on the twenty-first day of April, 1836, convoked his council of Texas patriots and asked them to test the temper of their men as to whether the battle should be pitched and fought on that day, knowing that it would be final, there was but one answer from the whole army, and there was not a jar to mar the unanimity of the declaration for a fight, for a fight today, for an opportunity to fight and an opportunity for revenge, and in some way hardly a man in Houston's army that had not been touched in some way by the infamous outrages that had been perpetrated by the Mexican army upon patriots of Texas. Every soldier stood straining at the leash and awaiting, not the orders, but the permission to go. Some had brothers massacred at the Alamo, some had brothers assassinated at Goliad, at Refugio, at other points in Texas, and all had suffered indignities in some degree at the hands of the ruthless dictator, backed by a vast army. The Texans were eager to be unbound, to be permitted to go, to be unleashed, so that they could engage

in dealing out the just retribution for the crimes of the Alamo and of Goliad. The stage was all set. The Twin Sisters were thrown into position, and, as preposterous as it seems when applied to an army of 783, each division commander was leading his division. General Burleson commanded the first regiment. Colonel Sherman commanded the second regiment and formed the left wing of the army, and the secretary of war, Thomas J. Rusk, unassigned and without portfolio, joined Sherman's branch of the army and conducted himself gallantly in the thickest of every charge. The artillery was placed under command of Colonel George W. Hockley. Four companies of infantry were commanded by Colonel Henry Mallard; and Colonel Mirabeau B. Lamar commanded the cavalry. You may have some idea of the impression of these several divisions when I tell you that the total number of cavalry under the command of Colonel Lamar consisted of 62 men. The Texas flag was unfurled and the lone musical instrument in the organization, in lieu of a band, played: "Will You Come to My Bower," and the Texans marched with steady tread until within easy rifle shot of the enemy, and then with deadly aim they poured volley after volley into the Mexican army, each soldier urging his companions on by shouting: "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" It seems incredulous that in so short a time such vast results should have been accomplished, but in less than an hour the Napoleon of the West had fled, his army had been captured, his stores and cannons and ammunitions had been appropriated, seven Texans had been killed and a few—including the intrepid commander—had been wounded; and the Texans had undisputed and undisturbed possession of the battle field, and the sloughs and swamps were filled with the bodies of dead Mexican soldiers.

After the Battle.

On the next day after the battle a small group of private soldiers scouring the adjacent country for the derelicts of the battle field discovered the great Napoleon of the West dressed in the garb of a common soldier and trying to make his escape from the Texans. He was carried as a prisoner to Houston's camp, and the commander-in-chief instead of suffering him to be put to the sword for the dastardly outrages, which he had put upon Texas patriots held him as a hostage of safety for Texas people. Santa Anna dead was of little value to the Texas army. Santa Anna as a prisoner of the Texas army could still issue orders to the Mexican army and have those orders obeyed. He was required to immediately issue orders to all Mexican soldiers in Texas to return to the west side of the Rio Grande forthwith, and to announce that a treaty of peace was to be negotiated with Texas, in which Texas would have her independence.

This day the war between Texas and Mexico came to an end. Its renewal was conducted after Texas became a part of the United States, and was of short duration and decisive results. Perfidious to the last, when Santa Anna was released by the Texas patriots he returned to Mexico and constantly incited war against Texas until the date of its annexation, when war was openly declared on a vain pretext, and the United States army took charge of the situation. With the ultimate end of this perfidious creature we have no concern.

We pause here as the beneficiaries of the result of this brief Texas campaign to look back over the situation, to express our gratitude and the eternal gratitude of a free people to the patriots, soldiers, statesmen who gathered to Anglo-Saxon civilization for North America, and to the enlightened government of the United States one-third of its present domain and left a record of heroic deeds not only unexcelled, but never equaled in the annals of warfare. It is difficult to suppose now at this date that Houston and Lamar and Sherman and Burleson and Rusk and Hockley and Wharton and the other great patriots in that great battle could look forward to this day and envision the wonderful civilization that has developed as a result of their patriotic sacrifices. More than six million people as civilized citizens of Texas today are enjoying the fruits of their labors, in a country where every man is free and where every man may worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and where every child may be educated and obtain the knowledge of life essential to his success which is given to him by the state without money and without price.

The 272,000 square miles of fertile lands and territory now comprised in the state of Texas and won in that great battle are filled with a happy and prosperous and a God-fearing and a God-serving people. These same acres are dotted with the churches of all denominations, where every sect and every creed may have its own place of worship and be free from the interference of all powers of the world. Within these same acres have been built great institutions of learning, great universities and a great system of public schools, and the buildings of the universities and the public school houses now adorn the barren prairies of 100 years ago. Wonderful cities have grown up within these 272,000 square miles, and factories have developed and prospered, and farms and ranches have been developed, so that we have become among the great feeders of the world, and with the fertile soil that we have, the magnificent area, and the wonderful climate, the state of Texas could feed and clothe a population as large as the total population of the United States.

What is now the state of Texas is not all that Texas heroes and Texas patriots acquired directly as a result of the battle of San Jacinto, but the great areas of parts of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and California were just as surely won on the battle field of San Jacinto as was the area of the state of Texas. When the citizens of these other great areas go back to fundamentals they find that their present civilization and their present union with the United States had their origin in the battle of San Jacinto.

Other Heroes.

In paying our tribute and expressing our gratitude to the heroes of San Jacinto we must not overlook other heroes who contributed substantially and materially to the success of the Battle of San Jacinto by giving their lives as a human sacrifice for the liberties of the Anglo-Saxon people. Not all the fame of Texas heroes should be given to those who successfully fought and won the Battle of San Jacinto, but with the names of Houston and Lamar and Sherman and Burleson and Rusk and Hockley and Wharton should be joined the names of Travis and Bowie and Crockett and all of the other immortals who fell in defense of the Alamo on the sixth day of March, 1836. No constellation of Texas heroes could be complete that did not carry the names of the heroes of the Alamo and the names of Stephen F. Austin and Milam and Fannin and the associates and patriots who fell with them in the defense of liberty. The defenders of the Alamo knew from the beginning that the defense was hopeless, but not one of them surrendered or tried to escape. It was this heroic defense, this terrific slaughter of the invading army by a handful of defenders, that contributed so powerfully to the irresistible onslaught of the Texas soldiers at San Jacinto; and but for the heroic stand made by the defenders of the Alamo all defense against the Mexican army would have been dissipated and an army could never have been drawn together by General Houston that could have had any hope of successfully meeting the army of Santa Anna. But for the stand at the Alamo Texas would have been desolate from the Rio Grande to the Sabine, and every vestige of living civilization would have been wiped out and driven from the borders of this heroic state. The stand made at the Alamo, the terrific slaughter made in its defense, demonstrated to the Mexican army that numbers could not always prevail. It stopped the march of the Mexican desolation across the country. It gave our own people time to think and act and gather together that band of men which culminated in the army of San Jacinto.

As descendants of these people, as children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of these heroes, we have a heritage far richer than the fertile acres which they won for us from Mexican tyranny. As citizens who have come to this country, who have followed its wonderful development, who have grown with it and become a part of it, you are entitled to share in the justifiable pride with which we point to the history of our own state as an independent Republic, and the pride with which we now point to it as the brightest star in the galaxy of the American Union. As such descendants and as such citizens we ought to daily bow our heads in humble gratitude to God that we should be permitted to live and enjoy this wonderful heritage won for us and all future generations by the dauntless spirits and the deathless heroes of our war with Mexico for the Independence of Texas.

Throngs Flock to City For Big Celebration of San Jacinto Centennial

H. P.
4/20/36

Thousands Arrive From Over Nation

Texans Will Honor Heroes in Rites at Battle Field.

Sam Houston's marching song "Will You Come to the Bower," re-echoed through Texas over the week-end as thousands flocked into Houston in answer to this city's bid to its colossal San Jacinto celebration.

"The Bower," in this instance, is San Jacinto battle ground, where a week of patriotic programs and events will reach a brilliant climax Tuesday.

Over the week-end Texans from as far north as the Panhandle; south, to Brownsville, and west, to El Paso—poured into Houston by motor and train.

Visitors from all states in the union were registering at local hotels for this impressive portion of the state's "birthday party," and the rest of the world awaited news of a celebration which currently holds a gleaming spotlight.

The San Jacinto program proper, to embrace a solemn military field mass in which Catholic church dignitaries will participate, an impressive historical program of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic, and Masonic ceremonies, will not get under way until Tuesday.

But patriotic, religious and civic groups of Houston continued to revive the colors of the state's most prized picture with festivities of all descriptions.

Monday's events will get under way with the San Jacinto Centennial association luncheon, which will bring together one of the largest gathering of notables assembled in Houston since the Democratic convention in 1928.

It is expected that the entire ballroom capacity of the Rice hotel, where the luncheon will be held at 12:15 p. m. will be taxed to care for those attending.

Lieutenant Governor Walter Woodul will be toastmaster. Speakers will include Bishop Clinton S. Quin, Dr. Henry Barnston, to give the invocation, and Archbishop A. J. Drossaerts, of San Antonio, to give the benediction.

Honor guests will include Governor James V. Allred and other high state officials, high ranking dignitaries of the Catholic church, high officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons of Texas, members of the state railroad commission, members of the State Centennial Commission, members of the Texas Board of Control, members of the state highway commission, ranking officers of two naval destroyers, berthed here for the celebration, and city officials.

Walter Jenkins will have charge of the musical program.

Plan Open House.

The Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas will observe open house at the pioneer log cabin in Hermann park from 3 to 7 p. m. Monday, in memory of the pioneers to whom the building is dedicated.

A colorful occasion will be the folk festival, to include folk songs, dances, games and other features, which is set for 7 p. m. Monday. For the event, the entire Main street section from Rusk to Prairie will be roped off and given over to the participants and spectators.

A reception in honor of visiting church notables who will participate in the solemn military field mass Tuesday, will be held under the auspices of Houston's Catholic churches at the City Audiorium at 8 p. m. Monday.

Sunday the San Jacinto battle ground had begun to wear its festive garments, and hundreds of sightseers visited the grounds during the day.

In preparation for the field mass, a giant altar was being constructed.

Concessions men were busy arranging for the holiday aspects of the occasion. Stands to meet a festive throng's whimsy for everything from Centennial hats to soda pop were being nailed into shape for the event, and trucks were busy taking supplies to the scene.

Traffic Plan Ready.

Plans had been completed for a carefully detailed traffic system to take care of the some 33,000 automobile expected to file to the battle ground for the Tuesday events. A complete parking system will be installed, and traffic officers placed on guard. In addition to the 40-foot main highway numerous other routes will take visitors to the battle field.

A large gathering of notables, including the governor, will go to the battle ground aboard the coast guard cutter [illegible], which will leave pier No. 14 at 7:30 a. m. Tuesday. As the cutter approaches the battle ground R. O. T. C. units of Houston public schools will raise the United States and the Texas flags, marking the official opening of the ceremonies. A salute to the flags will be fired by a detachment of the Sixty-ninth coast artillery regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Donovan.

Large placards with a red arrow denoting the best routes to San Jacinto are being placed on roads leading to the battle grounds, the San Jacinto Centennial association announced Sunday. The signs are being distributed by Houston Catholic organizations. H. P. 4/20/36

Special trains coming for the celebration will include one from North Texas, chartered by the Knights of Columbus from Fort Worth, Dallas and Waco, which will arrive at 8 a. m. Tuesday. The visitors also have chartered the Henry Lee, a river steamer, for the trip to the battle ground.

To Hold Field Mass.

The great celebration will be opened with the field mass, at 10:30 a. m.

Following a noon interval, the impressive historical program of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic will get underway at 2:30 p. m.

Masons of Texas will dedicate their memorial to Masonic heroes of San Jacinto at 4 p. m. and the ceremonies will be brought to a close at 6 p. m. by vesper services conducted by students from Houston public schools.

Both Monday and Tuesday have been declared holidays by the Houston public schools, and Houston public library. On Tuesday, practically all the downtown stores, as well as the banks and all public buildings, will be closed.

Texas Co-Eds To Sell Coins

H. P.
4/20/36

Centennial Mementos Will Be Available at Battle Field.

Hundreds of thousands of San Jacinto "keep sakes," which will have more than a sentimental value by the time the second Centennial rolls around, will be available on the battle ground Tuesday.

Among them will be Centennial silver coins, sold by pretty Texas university co-eds, attired in colorful costumes, according to O. M. Kendall, chairman of official concessions.

A list of official concessions, sponsored by the Sons of the Republic, and to be located on the battle field, proper, was announced Sunday as follows:

Centennial silver coins, Beauford Jester, chairman, Austin; Republic of Texas currency, John D. Griggs; pamphlets, "Shamrock and Cactus," William M. Ryan; camp stools, Clement Y. Yearger; historical silhouettes, I. C. Lunt; souvenir covers and envelopes, J. T. Judd and A. M. Carrow; movie flash photos, L. T. Bevan; ice cream, confections and frozen goods, W. L. Barr; popcorn and peanuts, John O. Osterman; all eats and drinks, Ned L. Jacobs and R. W. Stevens; official programs, novelties, post cards and souvenirs, E. R. Scott.

Daughters of the Republic of Texas will sponsor concessions on the camp site section of the battle field, and these will be in charge of K. C. Lowrie.

Follow San Jacinto's Heroic Example, Governor Allred Urges Texans

H. Pr. 4/21/36

San Jacin

INFORMATION FILE

The heroic pioneers who won Texas independence 100 years ago furnished a great example for Texans of today to make their state "just as resplendent in the eyes of the world as it was then," Governor Allred said today at San Jacinto Battleground.

Speaking before the throng which gathered at the Battleground for the patriotic program sponsored by the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the governor said the honor and glory of Texas "is as much in our hands as it was in those of Austin's colonists."

"It is not enough for us during this Centennial year merely to observe the lives and achievements of our forebears of a hundred years ago," the governor said.

"The Centennial of Texas progress will be meaningless, the sacrifice and valor of our forefathers will be in vain, unless Texans of this privileged generation renew the pledge they sealed with blood upon the battlefield."

Real Challenge

IN the minds of most of you there is doubtless the thought that nothing could be easier than to voice appropriate sentiments on this 100th anniversary of the battle which brought to realization the independence Texas leaders had so prayerfully proclaimed seven weeks before.

It is true that a wealth of stirring incidents and circumstances have come down to us from the eventful 50 days which lay between those dates in history. It is true that Texas, though politically a commonwealth, has become an economic empire ranking in all respects near the head of the list of 48 comprising the richest and most advanced nation in the world today. The great assemblage on this historic ground for months has been prepared to hear in their very setting the story of the deeds they done here to commemorate.

On Sacred Soil

YET I must pause, my friends, to ask indulgence. I beg you to bear with me for the very reasons which should make my tongue so glib. Because I stand on sacred soil I feel unequal to the task, my words unworthy, my thoughts inadequate. The changing panorama of industry and government has placed a gulf between that point in time and this which is wider than any measured by geographical extent. Yet someone must once more convey to you the message of those desperate days and to evade the responsibility would serve no end.

As given to my limited faculties to comprehend, the lesson of that unprecedented conflict is the obligation of the leaders of today—as few as there were then—with reference to the thousands who can or will not think and act alone; the stewardship implicit in the parable of the talents which the master left in trust, summed up by what the Frenchman calls noblesse oblige.

There are always some who sigh for days of high romance and derring-do. "Who could not be a hero when all the world was keyed to fighting pitch?" they ask, for the men and actions most often seen in retrospect are those most fit to withstand our gaze. In simple truth, a genius or a hero was then as hard to lay hand to, or recognize when found, as he is now. Then as now the great majority could criticise but not co-operate. Stirring words were oftenest met by apathetic shiftlessness. Men died while those sworn to assist them wasted the golden moment for action in coward hesitation or unprofitable debate.

Lest you take my conclusions from the facts of history as arbitrary or unwarranted, I must ask that you accompany me on a brief resurvey of the Texan army's march from the time that Santa Anna crossed the Rio Bravo with some 8000 men.

Rise of "Texan"

TO begin with, there was not the common sense between the elements which made up Texas' population one might assume from superficial consideration of the struggle from a viewpoint years removed.

Up until the time the separatist party's leaders avowed their intention of forcing the issue of good government against bad the word Texan had no special meaning beyond that implying an origin largely Anglo-American. Austin's colonists, by the terms of their settlement, were Mexicans. They had taken the oath of fealty to the green-banded flag of Montezuma's descendants. As honest men and substantial citizens they acknowledged obligation to their adopted land. It was only when the overwhelming ambition and political unscrupulousness of Gen. Santa Anna led him to declare a holy war of fanatical intolerance on the prosperous colonies of the northern frontier that blood called to blood, the word Texan became a rallying-cry and at once a badge of brotherhood.

EVEN when it was apparent that this ruthless demagogue and usurper of power intended a punitive assault on those who had taken part merely as citizens in the effort to preserve the country's form of government, there were many who doubted that the time for armed resistance had come. Not until the callous war lord had dislocated his fiendish interpretation of Fannin's surrender at discretion and the command of William Barrett Travis had become as trudy a sacrifice as Arnold Winkelried when he leaped upon the Austrian lances crying, "Make way for liberty," was it apparent that Texans must unite in action, flee or die.

My friends, we must not allow our enthusiasm for the brave who made resistance at the Alamo to blind us to the real issues in that war or confused purposes and the personal ambition of one man. France, bled white by the drain of the Napoleonic wars, had less cause to curse the exile of Saint Helena than the simple village folk of Mexican mountain towns his self-styled emulator in the West. Doubt not that hearts were torn and wails went up to heaven as the conscript sergeant's lot fell upon fathers, sons and brothers in Mexico. How many of all who marched away in despair of coming back had any inkling of why they went?

Heroes All

WHICH more truly represents the feeling of a nation: the edict of a hastening victor who cannot be burdened with captives or the heart-wrung words of pity on the lips of a woman of his people as she sees them led away to face the firing squad? And was the officer who saved from execution some of Fannin's men at the peril of his own life and station any less a man because his skin was swarthy and his name uncouth to Nordic ears? No password is exacted by an understanding heart and humanity knows no flag.

And so it came to pass that when Texas needed unanimity to oppose the legions of dictatorship, none appeared. How many of us who make holiday today, well fed, at rest and comfortable, secure in the possession of life and property, could resist the eloquence of beleaguered Travis, making his last appeal from the doomed mission of the Alamo?

"If this call is neglected I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible and die like a soldier who never forgets what is due his own honor and that of his country. I shall never surrender or retreat."

Couched in the simple, earnest language of despair, the power of that brave man's plea to his countrymen beyond the walls should have moved hearts of stone, infused the weak with courage and aroused hosts of determined men to raise the siege. Yet the sum of all who answered was two score and ten from old Gonzales.

Rallied People

A PRELUDE to San Jacinto! With 13 of the foe to every Texan in its walls, the Alama withstood until its last defender died. Like Nathan Hale, they could give but one life for their country, but their sacrifice was not in vain. In Wortham's words, Travis and his men seem to have foreseen that dying thus they might at last arouse the people of Texas, and that in death they would succeed in rallying them as they had failed to rally them in life!

But a thirst for vengeance was not the first result. Stark terror, born of Santa Anna's published policy of frightfulness, crept through the matted chaparral to every nestling cabin of a colonist. Men who would have stayed, and gladly, to meet the invading host pressed eastward to put their wives and children in places of safety. The forces of Sam Houston were inferior to the united army of the Mexican command. With Fabian strategy the Texan leader rapidly gave ground, burning the settlements as he went despite the protests of a few who wished to take the chance of making peace with Santa Anna's men and hundreds more who demanded to give battle.

Discord Flares

DISSENSION flared and insubordination raised its ugly head. As if it were not bad enough to give up league by league the ground won from the indians and wilderness, the fleeing band of soldiers must watch the spectacle of civilian flight, the piteous trail of exhausted mothers abandoning their goods as each fresh alarm was raised, hungry children subsisting as they could. In truth, it seemed an ending all too inglorious to their dream of homes and fertile lands!

Not all the heroism was with the army then. Among those fleeing women and physically unfit were those who gave example to their men at arms by their resourcefulness and thoughtlessness of self. Picture a group of weary fugitives, the wives of those who marched, standing courageously in the chilly rain to hold a sheltering blanket over a new mother and her babe.

And all the while the spirit of the people rose in pitch against the man whom Mexican historians themselves were to execrate and brand with traitorhood. Marshy plains and swollen rivers came to the assistance of the depatriated Texans as they fled, and though hardship stalked along the trail, Sam Houston gradually improved his position. At each step the invaders grew more confushed, more scattered and less well supplied. At last the mighty Brazos, that river named "the Arms of God," lay interposed between the hunters and the hunted.

Houston Firm

HERE it was that Texas learned the mettle of Leander Calvin Cunningham. For he had been to Bexar with a tiny troop of reinforcements for Travis and his men. Too late to help, he found his friends already butchered and the Alamo in hostile hands. Rejoining Baker at the Brazos, he watched the foe across its swollen tide and pleaded bitterly to be allowed to swim the flood and strike.

But Houston never once relinquished his authority, though it was challenged daily by those who were not generals but only fighting men. Had he been less a leader their eager counsel might have swayed his judgment and lost the Texan cause by risking battle unprepared. Houston well knew the temper of his men; and when he saw the chosen hour had struck, he made his stand!

A stone's throw from this spot within a grove of oaks the Texans pitched their camp. As they rested in its shade from forced marches, the enemy came and faced them there. Reinforced by Cos and his 400 men, the invaders held advantage by that number. How proud they were, how scornful of the smaller force they had pursued so far!

Texans Fearless

THERE was no corresponding fear in Houston's ranks. Numerical advantage could not cow his men as they recalled the bloody deeds of him whom they at last might grapple with. The hours passed until siesta time for those who confidently expected to crush the Texans once for all.

As the Hessian feasted at Trenton while Washington crossed the Delaware and Fitz-Green Halleck's Turk within his tent

Lay dreaming of the hour
When Greece, her knee in suppliance bent
Should tremble at his power,

the proud generalissimo prepared to take victory at his own convenience.

Can you picture, my friends, the time, the place and circumstance? San Jacinto then was much as it is now, except that over here, where ocean-going steamers pass, a sleepy bayou brackishly stood still. The mighty arm of San Jacinto Bay lay eastward then as now, fringed with bearded live-oaks and never out of sight of great magnolia trees whose huge white blossoms hav heavily perfumed the breezes of a hundred springtimes since that hour.

The time was afternoon. Save for the whinny of a trooper' grazing mount or the minor noises of two armed camps, no sound was heard. Then suddenly upon the calm as oddly-sorted air was borne, the thin treble of a courting-song, forgotten these hundred years. It was no stirring march of warlike roll and throb, yet to the sighing cadences of that lone instrument a nation's destiny was on the way.

Raise War Cry

"WILL you come to the bower . . . will you come to the bower?" And Texas in its pride and courage came, not for a rendezvous with love but one with death or victory. In open order in a single rank the men advanced at the double, heads up, rifles ready in their hands. Then someone raised the war cry that struck fear to Santa Anna's heart and smote him in his guilt:

"Remember the Alamo, remember La Bahia!"

It was the hour of vengeance and Texans struck. Who could have stood against the fury of that charge? Firing, thrusting, clubbing left and right, they threw the startled enemy into hopeless disarray. Here and there resistance momentarily appeared, but Houston's men were not to be denied. In 20 bloody minutes thrice the number Travis lost lay dead in expiation for their leader's lust of power and the dream of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who called himself Napoleon of the West, forever was destroyed.

8 Give Lives

TWO Texans died in battle and six more of their wounds, the glorious roster of the state's most famous victory. Will you hear me now incline your heads while I in tribute read their names:

First Lieutenant J. C. Hale.
Second Lieutenant George A. Lamb.
Sergeant Thomas P. Fowl.
Lemuel Blakely.
J. Tom.
R. R. Brigham.
Dr. William Motley.
A. R. Stephens.

The decisiveness of San Jacinto cannot be measured by the geographical limits of the free republic it assured or the sovereign state which took its place. Its import lies in the finality of the decree that Texas should be no buffer state, forever torn by war between two uncompromising nations. That the citizen of the United States and the citizen of Mexico could lie down by night, as they have done for nearly a century, each on his side of an unfortified frontier, a river which either might ford under cover of the dark, yet is respected as the extremest limit of national control.

Lauds Cause

NO ominous breastworks glower across the line; no black, forbidding muzzles threaten death. No heavy garrisons infest the border towns, with constant fear afoot that sometime they will clash and draw the nations into war. The peace which hovers there is born of mutual consideration and respect, safeguarded by the channels of diplomacy and not by marching men.

My friends, it was not purely valor which decided how that battle went; it was the cause for which the armies fought. The troops of Taylor tried the steel of Mexico under the walls of Monterrey when they strove from house to house and door to door. Americans in pilgrimage each year to the Castle of Chaupultepec pay tribute to Mexican lads of 10 and 12 who died there in defense of all they held most dear, of two few years to join the forces in the field but not too young to lay their lives down for their country.

Call for Leader

TEXAS felt the need of leadership again as the new republic groped to solve the problems of national finance and government. The counsel of those who held the helm could not always be relied upon, and bitter factional differences arose. But always there were some whose trust in the manifest destiny of these people was sufficient to bring them through once more.

Annexation was a natural step, but one which almost at once threw the newly-liberated citizens into the caldron of the War between the States. In the heat and turmoil of the hour there were those who broke with General Houston for his views, accusing the lukewarmness for the rights of states the man who personally had refused a crown!

Texas in large degree escaped the bitter bondage which defeat brought older Southern states but there was still the memory of a yoke to keep them from sleeping on their freemen's rights. Names have not been lacking in the roll of Texas statesmen since the Reconstruction—Hogg, Hubbard, Chilton, Stephens, Terrell, Reagan, to mention but a few—yet then as now the guidance of the state was all too often left to the personally ambitious, the politically selfish with an ax to grind.

People Must Rule

MY fellow Texans, at no titme in history has there been or can there be any surplus of men who place first the interests of their people and their state. It is not alone the individual who could serve in public office and for this or that consideration chooses not to seek it whom I challenge here. The function of our democratic system depend upon the whole electorate, and the man who denies his time to jury duty or fails to cast the ballot won by Crockett's blood takes by so much the luster of the victory gained on this ground a hundred years ago today.

How can the man who fails in such simple duties to his commonwealth assume to say he would have done so much when all of Texas either fought or fled? The man who cannot discharge a little trust will not be worthy of a great.

Added to this eternal scarcity of civic consciousness there is the inescapable decline of private concern for public weal which has accompanied the growth in wealth and power of every state since Ninevah and Babylon, since Tyre and Sidon, and Since Rome.

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

My fellow Texans, the honor and glory of the Lone Star State is as much in our hands this day as it was in those of Austin's colonists. We can if we will make Texas just as resplendent in the eyes of the world as it was then.

Renew Pledge

IT IS not enough for us during this Centennial year merely to observe the lives and achievements of our forebears of a hundred years ago. The Centennial of Texas progress will be meaningless, the sacrifice and valor of our forefathers will be in vain, unless Texans of this privileged generation renew the pledge they sealed with blood upon the battlefield.

On this hallowed ground today, looking to the future Texas, we turn with hope and yearning to the bright pages of the past for light and guidance. God grant that we may draw from them strength to meet new problems based on traits of human character old when recorded history begin. May it not be vainly that we call the names of our heroic dead to lead us spiritually by the rich example of their courage and devotion.

if not in grandeur of proportion, if not in grandueur of proportion. The cry which thrilled each charging man in Houston's battle line is ours to sound with meaning new the one they fashioned unawares.

Let us "Remember the Alamo, remember Goliad, remember San Jacinto!"

These 11 They Were the Heroes Who Died

4/21/36

ON the battlefield today where thousands celebrate the hundredth anniversary of San Jacinto, these 11 men died or received mortal wounds.

Little other than their names is known. What manner of men they were, how they lived and the exact manner in which they died is long forgotten.

Seven were killed in action. Four died later without realizing the sweetness of their victory.

This honor roll of San Jacinto was written in blood April 21, 1836:

LEMUEL STOCKTON BLAKELY.	THOMAS PATTON FOWLE.
BENJAMIN RICE BINGHAM.	MATHIAS COOPER.
GEORGE A. LAMB.	ASHLEY R. STEPHENS.
JOHN C. HALE.	OLWYN J. TRASK.
DR. WILLIAM JUNIUS MOTTLEY.	JAMES COOPER.
	GILES A. GIDDIN

Probably young Giles Giddin, who was only 24 and recently come to Texas, expressed the sentiment of most of them in a letter home to Pennsylvania 10 days before the battle.

"If I fall, you will have the satisfaction that your son died fighting for the rights of men," he wrote. "I am well and in good spirits as unconcerned as if going to a raising."

High-hearted Giles lived despite his wounds for three weeks after the battle.

Olwyn J. Trask, wounded April 20 in cavalry skirmish, could not take part in the charge of the Mexican camp on the day of battle. He died several days later.

Near Secretary of War Rusk for whom he was acting as aide-de-camp, Dr. Junius William Mottley, 24-year-old Virginian, fell as the battle cry "Remember the Alamo—Remember Goliad" routed the Mexicans. He had signed his name to the Declaration of Independence and had been surgeon for a time at the post at Goliad.

History tells little of Stephens and Fowle, both second sergeants. Fowle had been in Texas about a year. Stephens emigrated from Natchez. He was 30.

Hale was the only commissioned officer killed in action. He was first lieutenant of Company Seven, Second Regiment, and a native of Maine.

If the two Coopers, Mathias and James, were related there is no mention of that in history. Mathias was killed in action. James died of his wounds several months later.

George Lamb, 22, had emigrated to Texas from South Carolina in 1834. He was with the Texas army of volunteers for about a month. He was killed instantly in the first charge of the Texans.

Privates Blakely and Bingham, both killed in action, left no records of their lives to be retold by historians. Only their names endure on monuments to those who fell at San Jacinto.

Ch. Ps. 4/21/36

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The Sixty-Ninth regiment is the only coast artillery outfit with anti-aircraft equipment.

* * *

A NEAR-SIGHTED souvenir salesman ran into a barbed wire fence at the Battleground early today and sustained a jagged cut on his cheek.

A Settegast-Kopf Company ambulance took George Rogers, 23, to Park View Hospital. He was released after emergency treatment and returned to the Battleground.

"Texans Fought Like Demons,"

Says Mexican Writing of San Jacinto

INFORMATION FILE

San Jacinto

Press

THE men whom Sam Houston's men fought in the Battle of San Jacinto have remained, for many, an enigmatic element. 4-21-36

Mystery and hazy impressions surrounding them are cleared away in a Mexican account of the battle. The account was penned by Colonel Delgado, aide to Santa Anna.

Delgado portrayed Santa Anna's men as demoralized, long before the battle, and his officers as distrustful of their leadership.

Placement of the Mexican army is made much of in the account; Santa Anna is pictured as a blunderer.

Marched Barefoot

Although blood-stains probably still remained on some of Santa Anna's men from Goliad and the Alamo, Delgado speaks of the outrage of being prodded barefoot across the prairie. He recites other insults and cruelties, some perpetrated by the Texas soldiers and others by their own officers. Critics have said Delgado's account is exaggerated, while adding that bitter feeling likely ran high among the Texas conquerors owing to the outrages that had been committed.

But Delgado tells of varied acts of mercy and of the courtesy of Sam Houston.

Describes Raids

Delgado tells of the march from Fort Bend on the Brazos River, of the army being thrown into confusion when tangled in a traffic jam in the water, of halting at a plantation for food and refreshment after which "having set fire to the dwelling and gin houses we resumed our march, and of raids and burning of homes across the bayou from Harrisburg."

The Mexican army proceeded to New Washington, Delgado relates, where they found flour, soap, tobacco and other articles and rounded up 100 head of cattle for slaughter. They had burned "a fine warehouse on the wharf and all the houses in the town," when Captain Barragan (leader of a scouting company) rushed in, at full speed, reporting that Houston was close on our rear. Upon hearing Barragan's report Santa Anna leaped on his horse, and galloped off at full speed for the lane, which being crowded with men and mules, did not afford him as prompt exit as he wished.

"However, knocking down one, and riding over another, he overcame the obstacles, shouting at the top of his voice: 'The enemy are coming! The enemy are coming.' The excitement of the general-in-chief had such a terrifying effect upon the troops that every face turned pale; order could no longer be preserved, and every man thought of flight, or of finding a hiding place and gave up all idea of fighting. Upon reaching the prairie, a column of attack was formed, with trepidation and confusion, amidst incoherent movements and contradictory orders."

Houston's army pickets were seen on the edge of a large wood where the main Texas force was concealed. The Mexicans began firing and Santa Anna tried to make an immediate attack but was unable to ascertain the Texans' position. He then ordered a company led by Toluca to deploy as skirmishers. The Mexicans opened cannon fire and the Texans responded with grape shot.

Disobeys Orders

"Meanwhile, Santa Anna thought of the knapsacks which he had ordered his men to throw off in their hurried exit from New Washington. He ordered Delgado to unload the pack mules and send back for them. Delgado disobeyed the orders in part; he reserved two mules which later came in handy.

Santa Anna went looking for a camping ground and left the army to fight it out with the Texan army in the words. He established his whole force, Delgado relates, "along the shore of San Jacinto Bay at least one mile from the place where I had been left. About one hour later, I received orders, through Colonel Bringas, to come into camp immediately with the stores and artillery. That officer was, also, the bearer of orders to the company of Toluca, the only force that checked the enemy, to fall back likewise. . . I observed to Colonel Bringas that it would take some time to execute this order, the chests, as His Excellency knew, being piled on the ground, and I having only two mules upon which to load them; and, furthermore, that should Toluca leave me unsupported, the enemy would probably pounce upon the stores.

Texans on Alert

"Colonel Bringas advised that . . . no observations could be made to his excellency, and that he had no desire to argue with him, in the raving state of mind in which he was.'

Toluca's company fell back. The Texans spotted the unprotected stores and artillery, shattered the caisson, scattered the Mexican ordnance boxes and kept up a gunfire under which Delgado rescued with difficulty and danger 40 odd boxes of ammunition. He recalls the episode bitterly: "How the general-in-chief had endangered the whole division. I acknowledge that I had never before been in such danger. . . . As I entered the camp with the last load, I was closely followed by the enemy's cavalry. "A skirmish followed and the Texans retired. That was at sundown, April 20, 1836.

The dawn of April 21 found Santa Anna's men constructing a cannon breastwork with pack-saddles, sacks of hard bread, baggage, and the like, with a trifling barricade of branches alongside. The camping ground of Santa Anna's selection Delgado said, "was in all respects against military rules. Any youngster would have done better.

Describes Positions

"We had the enemy on our right," Delgado said, "within a wood, at long musket range. Our front, although level, was exposed to the fire of the enemy, who could keep it up with impunity from his sheltered position. Retreat was easy for him on his rear and right, while our own troops had no space for maneuvering. Before the engagement, I submitted to General Castrillon a few remarks on the subject. He answered: '. . . What can I do, my friend? . . . nothing avails here against the caprice, arbitrary will and ignorance of that man.' This was said in an impassioned voice and in close proximity to His Excellency's tent."

General Cos arrived with 500 reinforcements at 9 a.m. Santa Anna told them to stack their arms and go to sleep. Time moved up to 4:30 p.m.

"Lost Acre" of Battleground Found; "Plaster" Peeled From Gilt Altar Without Scratch; No Food Hijacking

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One of the rays shone over the still waters of Santa Anna Lake and onto the Boy Scout camp. One illuminated the field mass altar. Another pointed to the big tent occupied by the Catholic dignitaries. Still another was trained overhead.

The spotlights were on display at the camp today. Also a number of anti-aircraft machine guns, which shoot 5000 yards, and anti-aircraft guns, which carry 10 miles.

The Sixty-Ninth regiment is the only coast artillery outfit with anti-aircraft equipment.

* * *

A NEAR-SIGHTED souvenir salesman ran into a barbed wire fence at the Battleground early today and sustained a jagged cut on his cheek.

A Settegast-Kopf Company ambulance took George Rogers, 23, to Park View Hospital. He was released after emergency treatment and returned to the Battleground.

SAN JACINTO

By JUDD MORTIMER LEWIS
Of The Houston Post.
(First Poet Laureate of Texas)

H.P.
4/21/36

This day, a century ago,
Men fought, and, fighting, died.
And dying, cheered their comrades on;
And Santa Anna's pride,
And Santa Anna's banners, trailed
Defeated and forlorn;
This day, a century ago,
Was Texas' Freedom born.

Her Freedom! Born of sacrifice,
Of blood, and death, and tears,
Of reckless and heroic deeds,
To live unnumbered years;
To march on through the centuries,
As long as men are strong
To value Freedom, and to fight
And die to right a wrong.

This day, a hundred years ago,
On such another morn,
A newer, greater glory than
The world had known was born;
Then a new Freedom lifted high
Its flag of victory;
An inspiration to the world
For all the years to be.

Today, on San Jacinto's field,
We dedicate anew
Ourselves and our posterity,
To be forever true
To the ideals of the brave
Who flung their banner high,
The deathless banner of their faith,
Across the Texas sky.

Trees Frame Battleground Shelter House

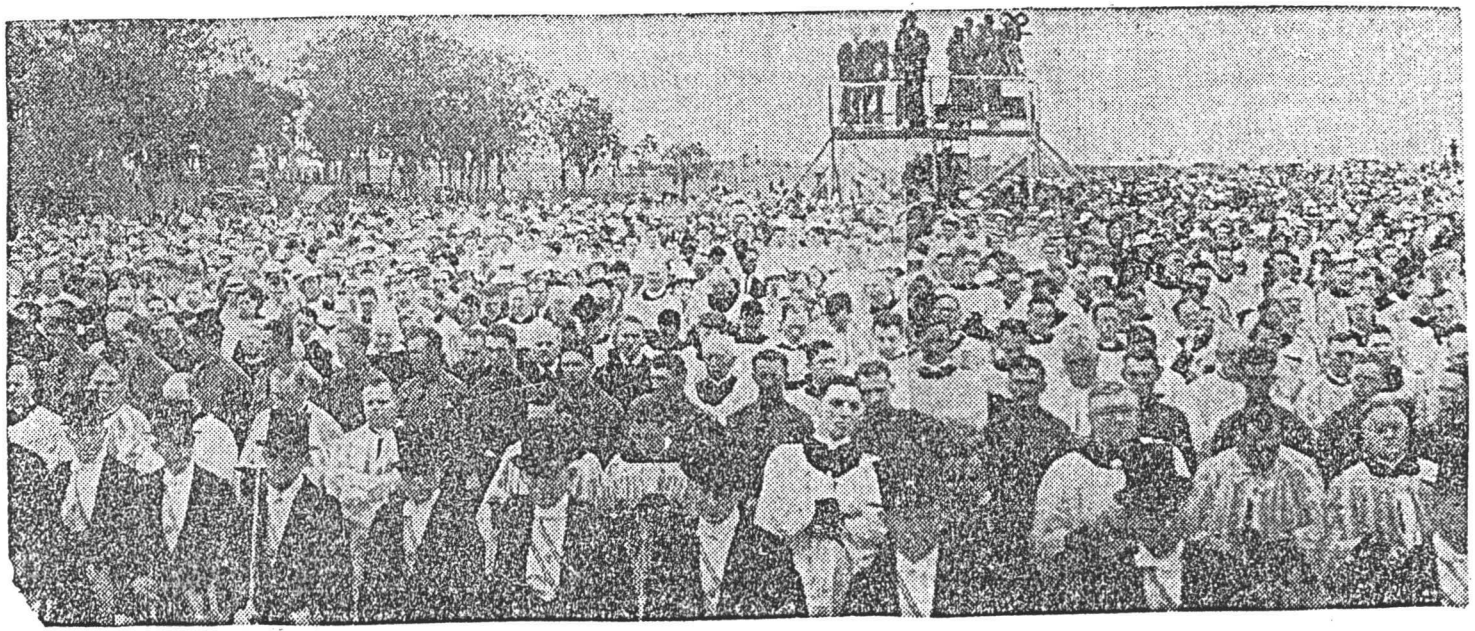
H.Pr. 4/21/36

Battleground visitors, tired of wandering around viewing historical spots, can find rest at this shelter house in the park.

Colorful Pageantry of Field Mass

H. C. 4/22/36

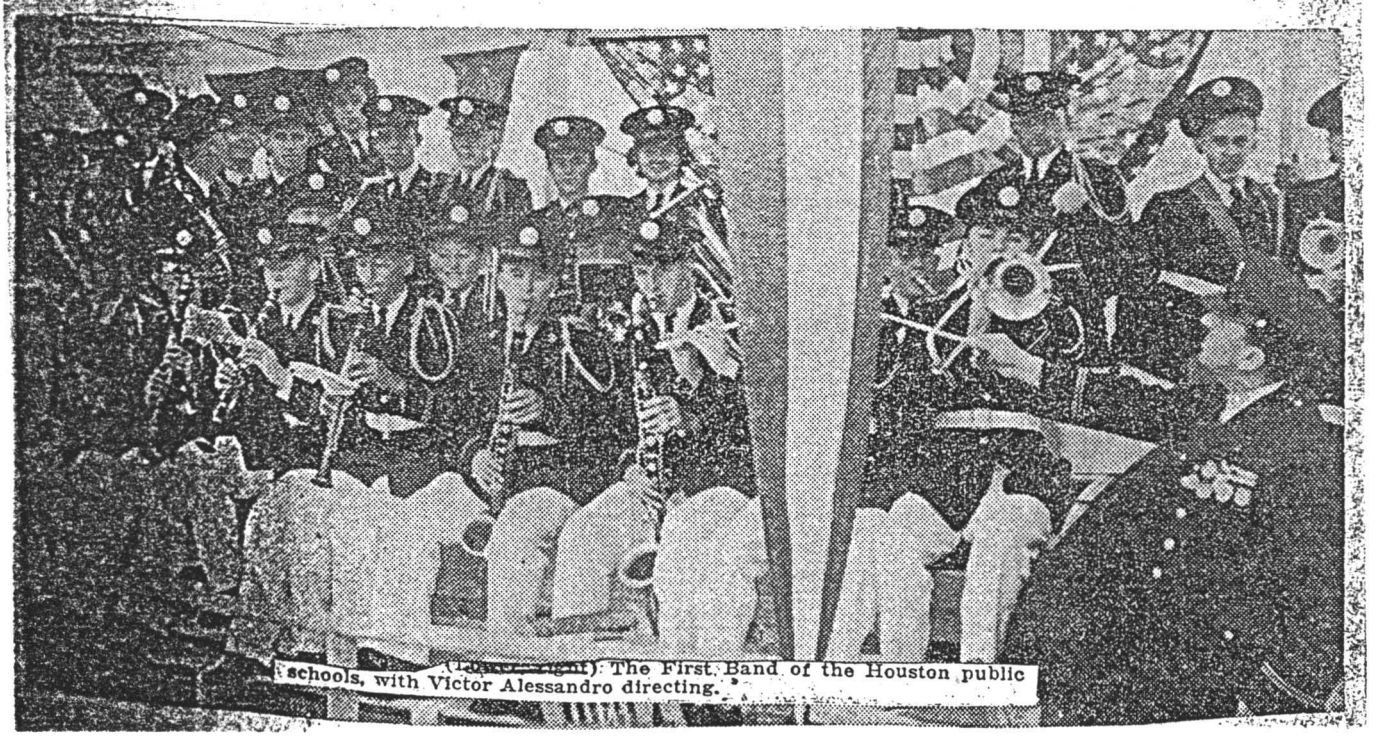
at San Jacinto Battleground



(3) Ante-bellum days in Texas, typi- fied by picturesque equippage with Confederate veterans.

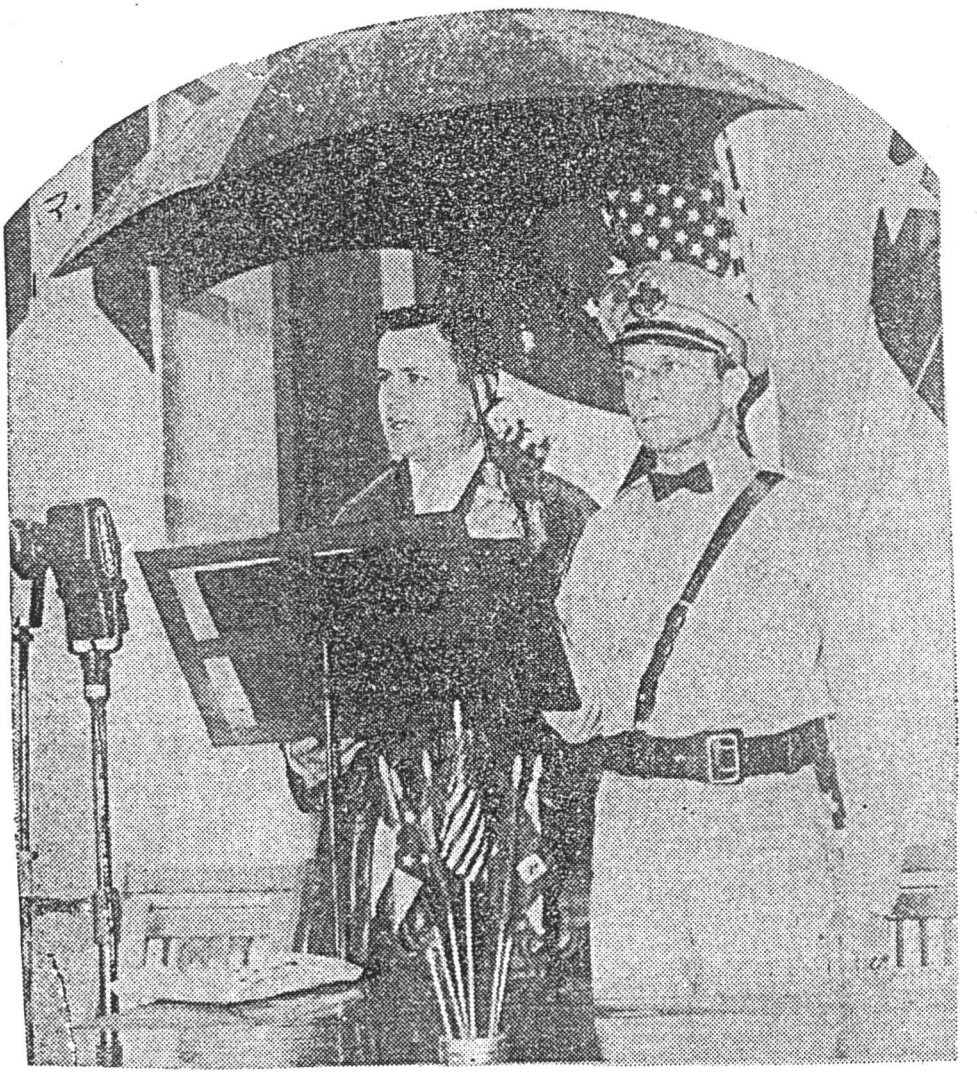
(5) Alabama and Coushatti Indians from h Livingston reservation formed col- orful parade section.

Alabama Indians



schools, with Victor Alessandro directing.

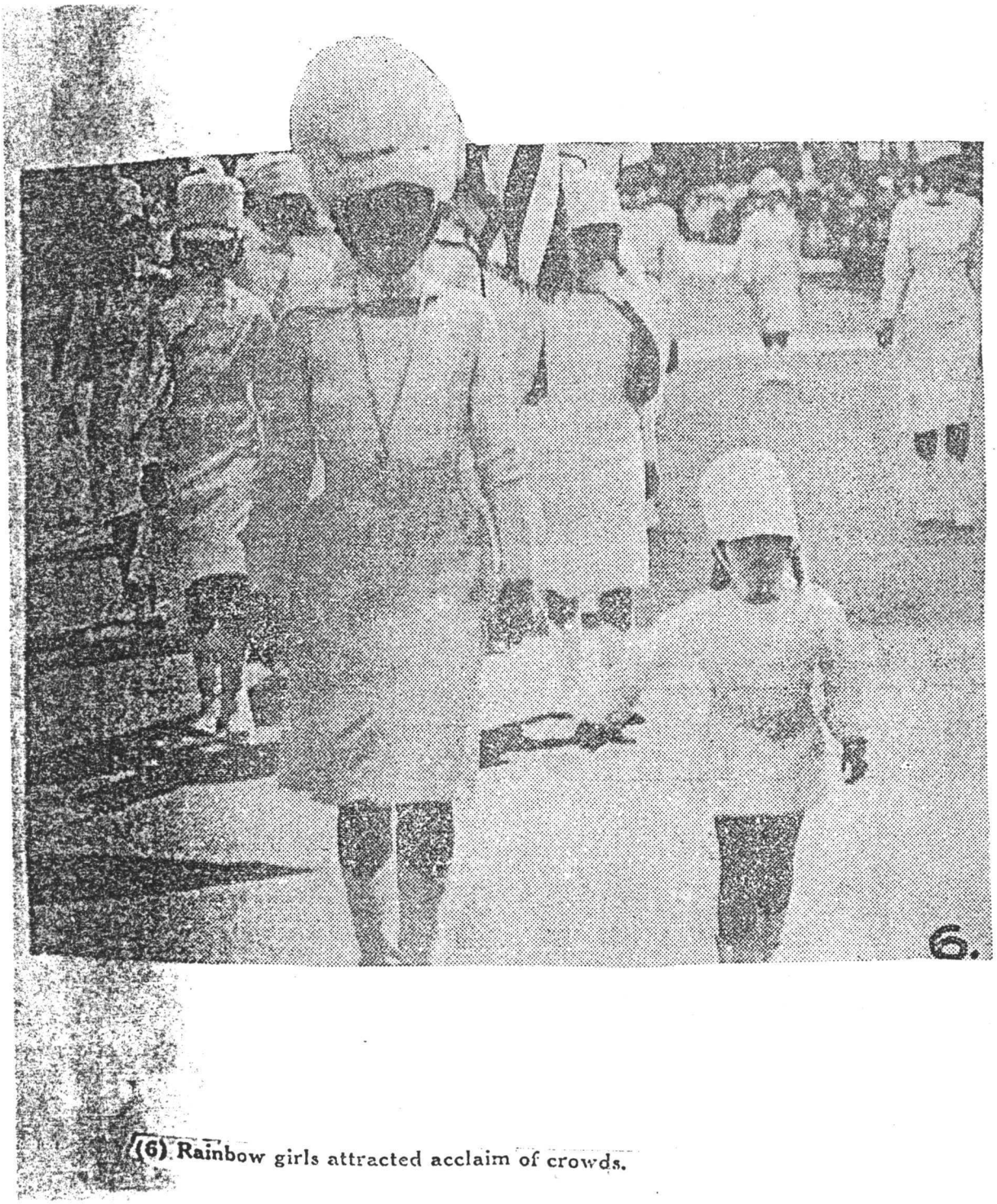
(Middle, right) Some of the Alabama-Coushatti Indians, guests at the celebration.



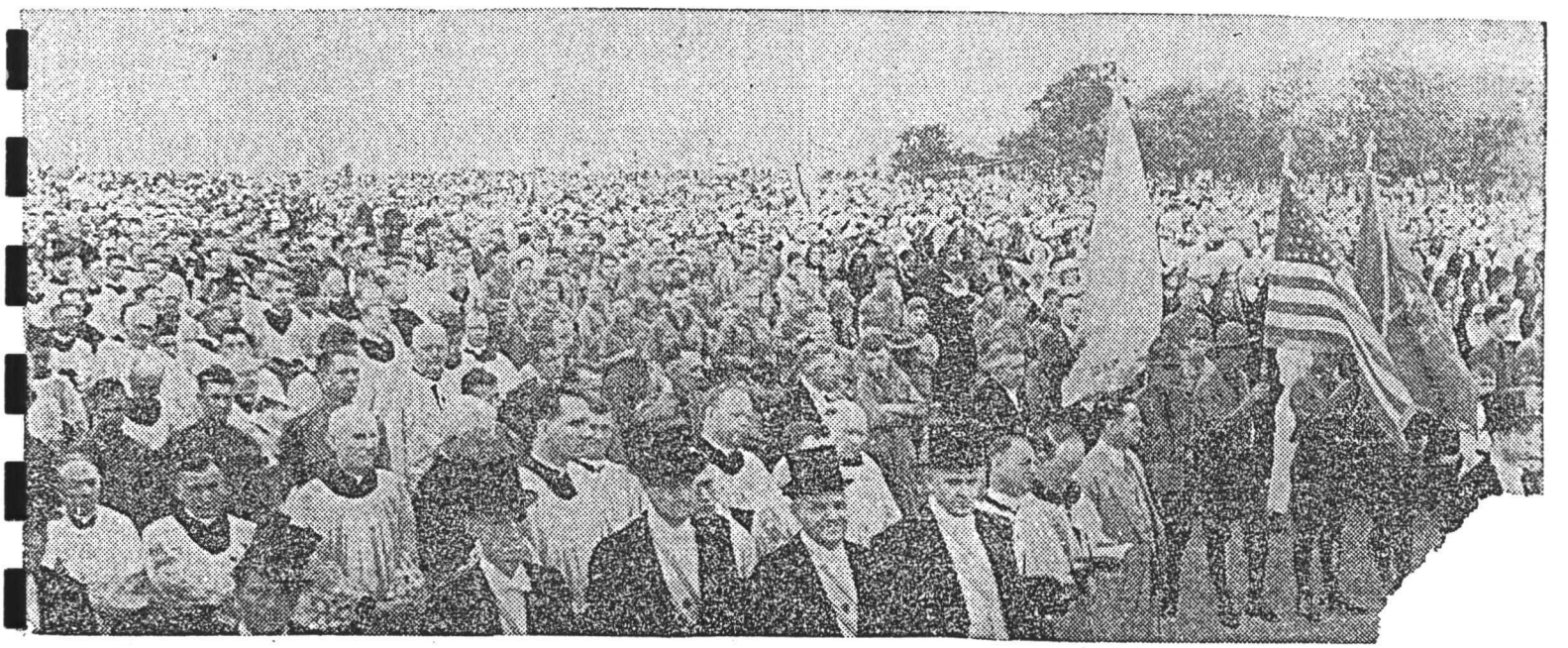
The Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas held their Sa Jacinto Day celebration Tuesday in a driving rain at the battlegroun (Top, left) Part of the crowd which stood in the rain to hear th speakers. (Top, right) Governor James V. Allred as he delivered hi address, sheltered by an umbrella held by a highway patrolma (Middle, left) Judge Charles E. Ashe, president of the San Jacin Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, standing before Texa six flags.

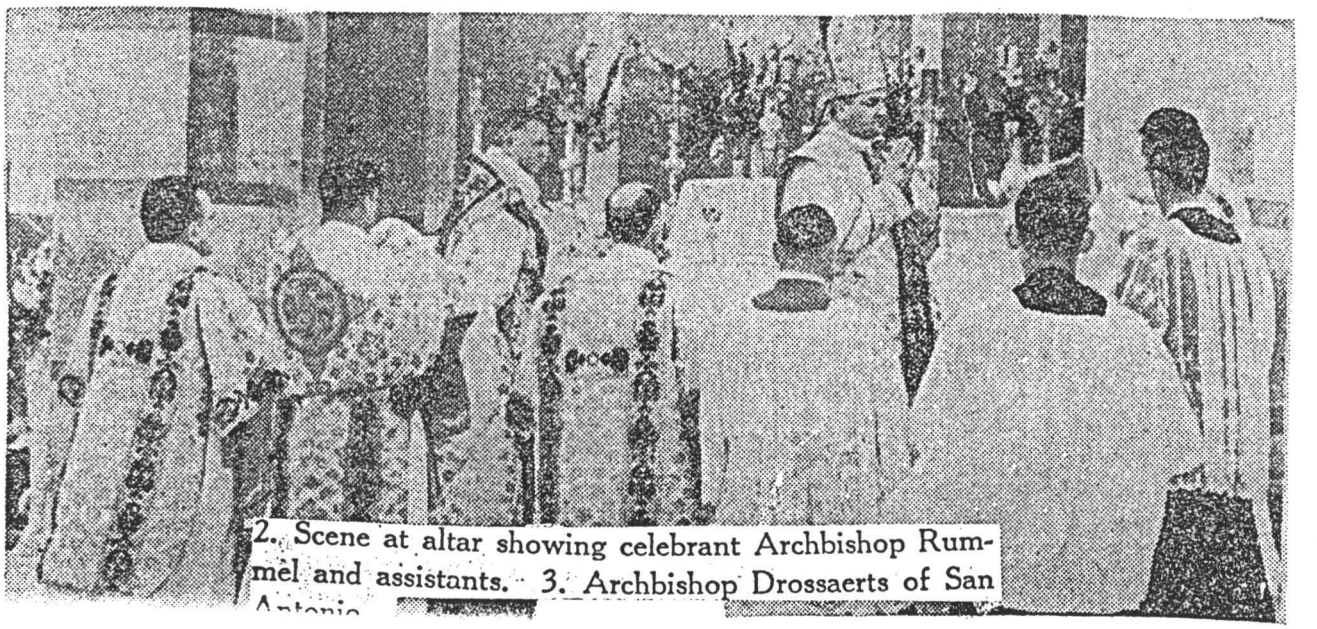
(Lower left) Replica of the famous Gonzales cannon from which a three-gun tribute was fired to San Jacinto heroes.

l. Lieutenant Governor Woodul and Governor Allred in procession.

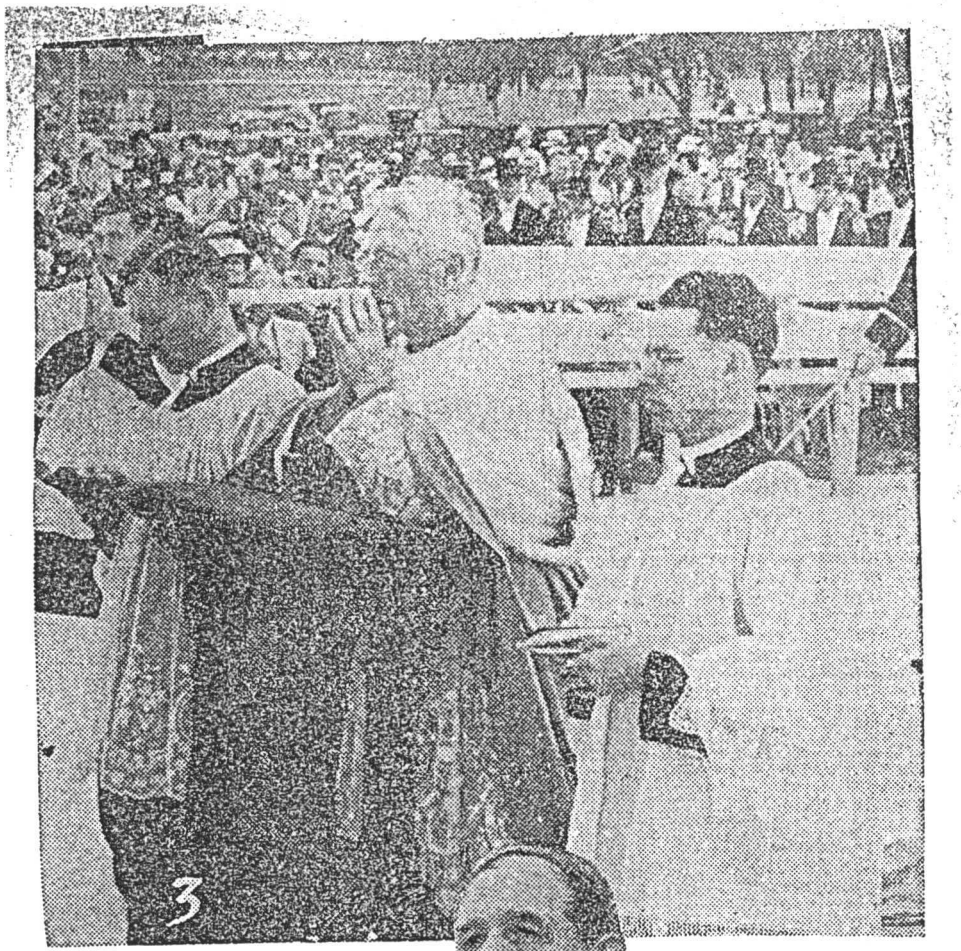


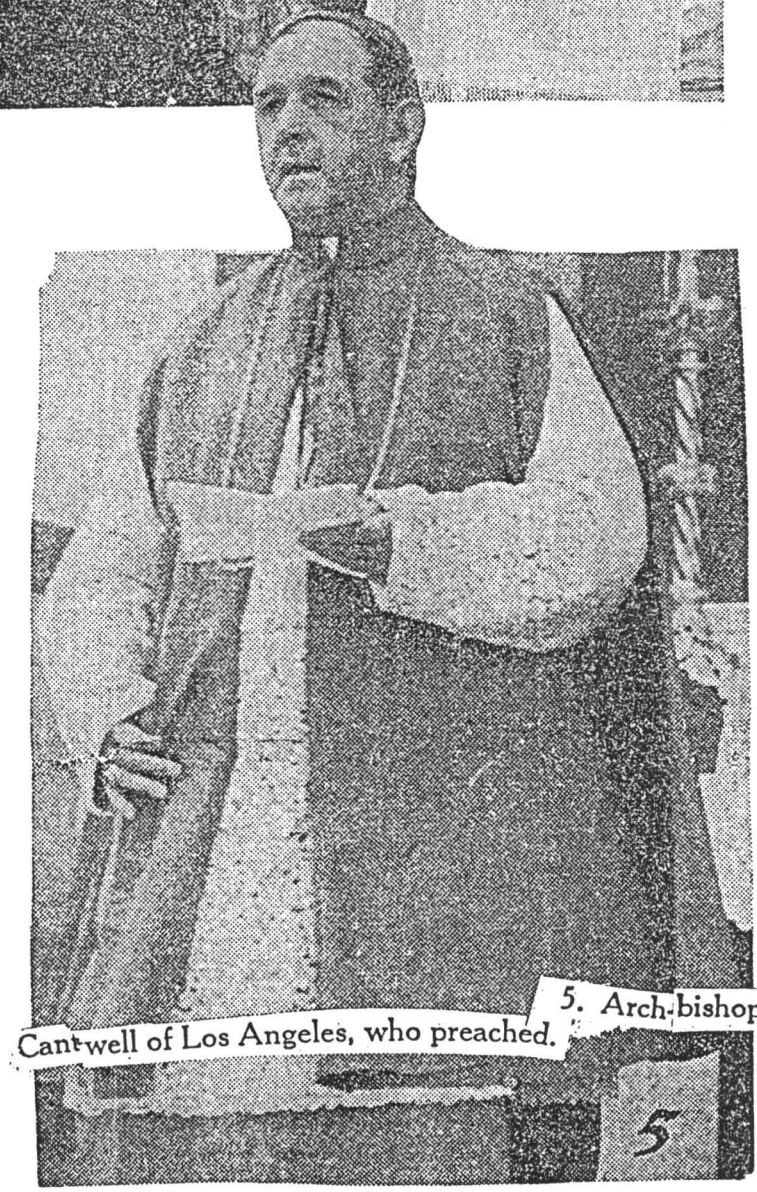
(6) Rainbow girls attracted acclaim of crowds.





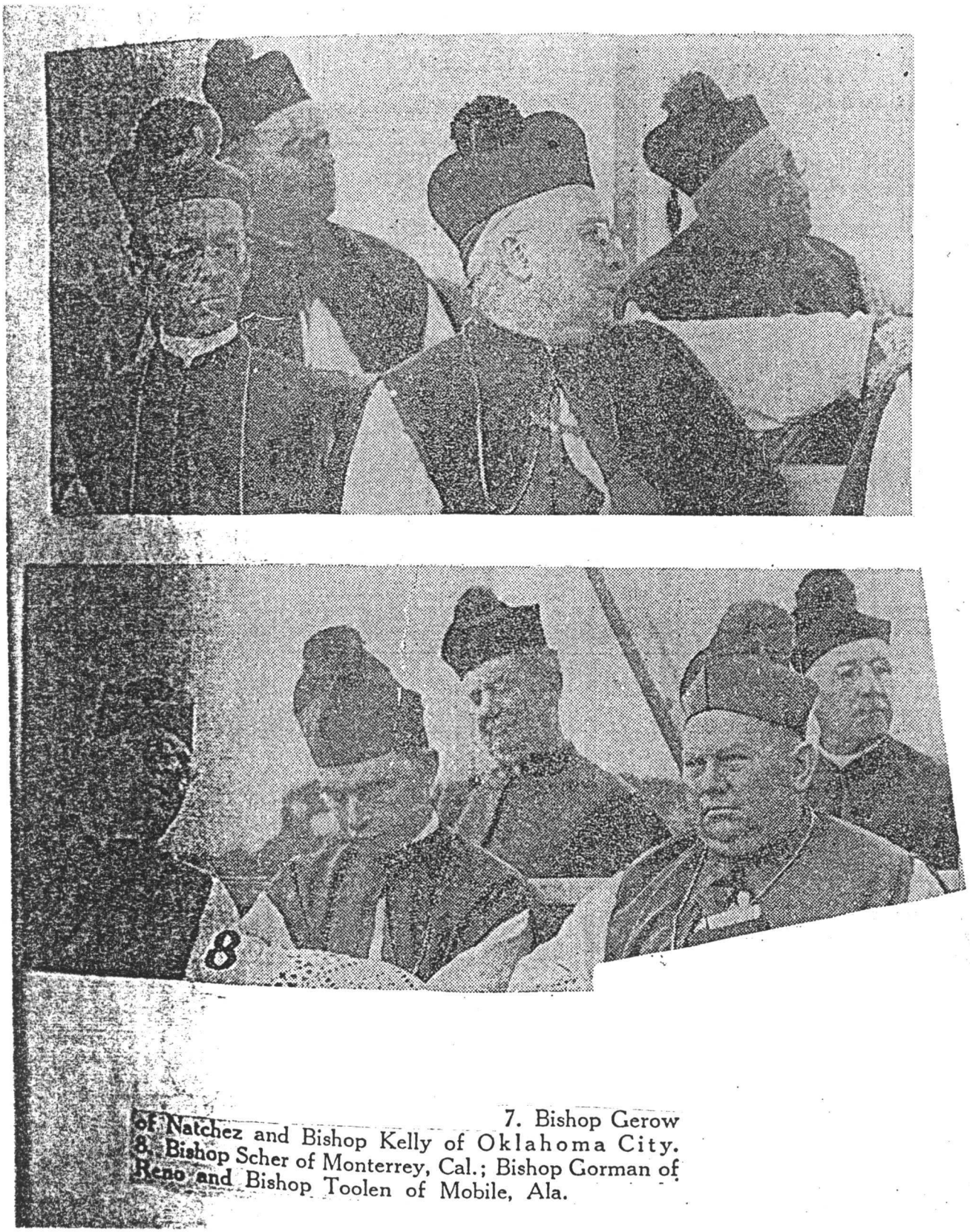
2. Scene at altar showing celebrant Archbishop Rummel and assistants. 3. Archbishop Drossaerts of San Antonio



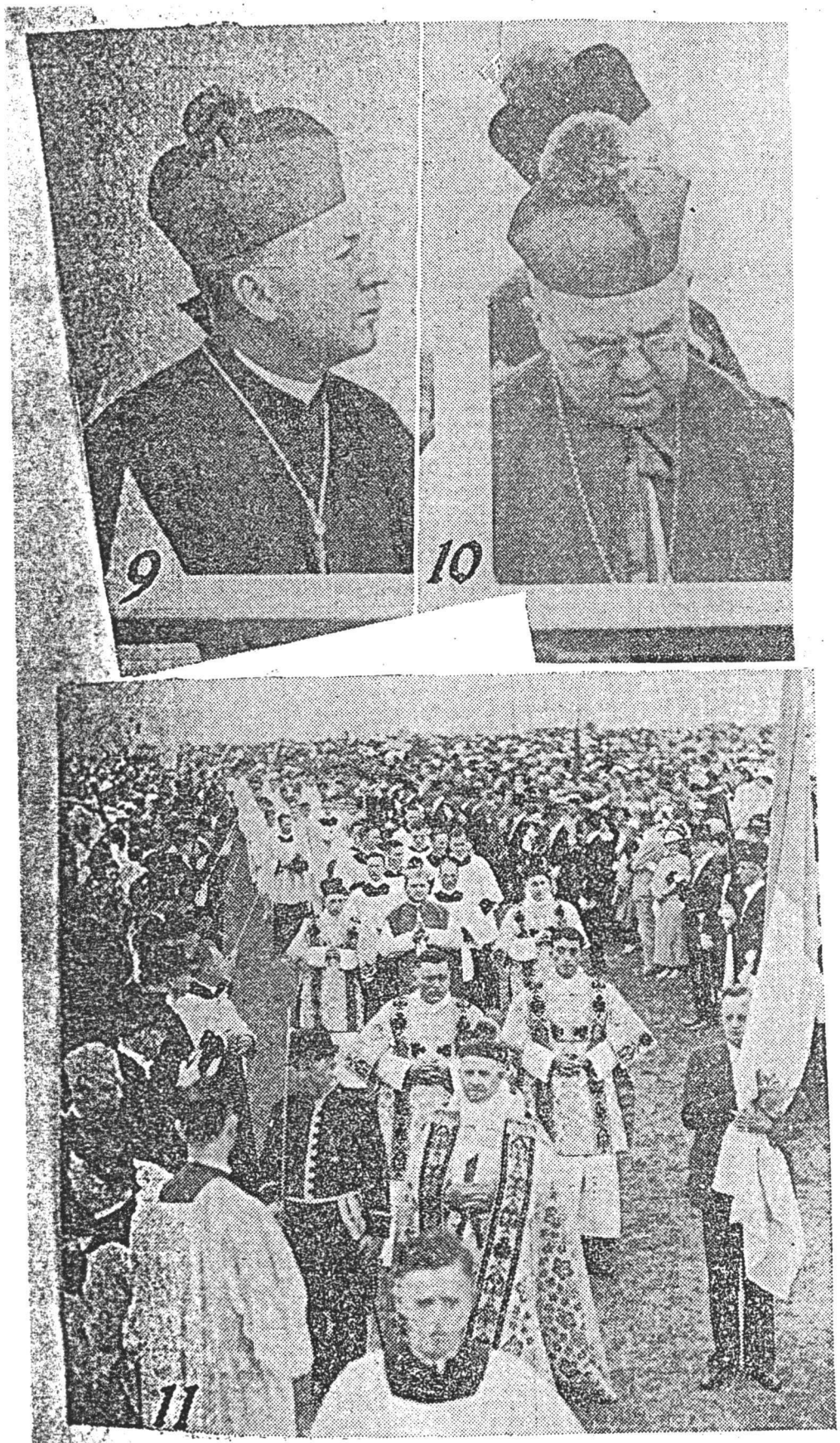


5. Archbishop Cantwell of Los Angeles, who preached.

4. Section of 300-voice choir.



7. Bishop Gerow of Natchez and Bishop Kelly of Oklahoma City.
8. Bishop Scher of Monterrey, Cal.; Bishop Gorman of Reno and Bishop Toolen of Mobile, Ala.



9. Archbishop Mitty of San Francisco. 10. Bishop Boyle of Pittsburgh. 11. Celebrant of the mass and attendants in procession.

13.

Bishop Jeanrnard of Lafayette, La., and Bishop Althoff of Bellville, Ill.

REPUBLIC SONS, DAUGHTERS HOLD PROGRAM

H.C. 4/22/36

Governor Allred Speaker at Celebration; Three-Gun Salute Is Fired to San Jacinto Heroes.

Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas braved a cold, slanting rain Tuesday afternoon to complete their San Jacinto Day program at the battleground at which Governor James V. Allred was the principal speaker.

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Rain Discouraging.

Although the rain had discouraged the bulk of the crowd which was at the morning services, about 2000 gathered to see Judge Charles E. Ashe, president San Jacinto Chapter of the Sons, present descendants of the heroes of the republic.

Essay Award.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas historical essay award went to Charles Yarborough, it was announced by Miss Sadie McLean.

Governor Allred began his talk at 3 p.m., within the hour that Sam Houston led his men in the famous charge 100 years ago. In a ringing recital of the battle, Governor Allred recalled the courage of the men.

"Texans of today can emulate the example set by their ancestors at San Jacinto by an awakened concern for the public welfare," he declared.

"There was not the common cause among the elements which made up Texas' population, one might assume from superficial consideration of the struggle.

"Austin's colonists, by the terms of their settlement agreement, were Mexicans. They had taken the oath of allegiance to the green-banded flag and as honest men, they acknowledged their obligation to their adopted land.

Word "Texan" Rallying Cry.

"It was only when the unscrupulousness of Santa Anna led him to declare war on the prosperous colonies of the northern frontier that blood called to blood and the word Texan became a rallying cry."

Mrs. Ramsey called on Texans to keep faith with the spirit of the heroic pioneers.

When it came time to introduce descendants of the heroes of the republic, many had left because of the rain. Among those who rose when introduced by Judge Ashe were Mrs. Lucy Sherman Craig, descendant of General Sidney Sherman, commander of General Houston's left wing in the battle; Mrs. Emiley Perry Moore, descendant of Moses Austin; Mrs. Jennie Morrow Decker, descendant of Sam Houston, and W. E. Kendall, grandson of General Sherman.

At the conclusion of the program, Chief Baldwin Parker, son of the famous Dorothy Ann Parker, beat out the rhythm of a tom-tom as three of his sons put on several

High points in the celebration were the reading of Gen. Sam Houston's report of the Battle of San Jacinto, by W. E. Kendall, a short talk by Mrs. Erl R. Ramsey, president of San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and the firing of a three gun salute to San Jacinto heroes with a replica of the famous Gonzales cannon.

In his invocation, Rev. J. H. H. Ellis, chaplain of San Jacinto Chapter, Sons of the Republic of Texas, gave thanks for the benefits received from the courage and sacrifices of Sam Houston's men in the great battle.

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Six Flags in Place.

The celebration was held on the same platform which held the altar used in the Catholic field mass during the morning. For the afternoon ceremonies, the six flags which have waved over Texas had the place of honor on the altar.

On one side of the platform sat the Alabama-Coushatti Indians from the Polk County reservation, in full regalia, and a few Oklahoma Indians. On the other side was the First Band of the Houston public schools, directed by Victor Alessandro.

One of the band's selections was the San Jacinto battle hymn, "Will You Come to the Bower"—the song Gen. Sam Houston's men sang as they went on the double-quick across the fields of San Jacinto to win independence for Texas 100 years ago.

Start of Work on San Jacinto Monument Due This Month; Contractors Get Plans

H. Post 5/22/31

New Champion of Grandeur and Size 40 Feet Higher Than Washington Shaft

FINAL model for the San Jacinto Monument—champion of grandeur and size—is pictured here.

Prespects loomed today that work will be started on the monument before the month ends.

Plans and specifications are being placed in the hands of contractors, Architect Alfred C. Finn said. Bids will be received by the State Board of Control in Austin at 10 a. m. May 26. It will be of golden buff Texas limestone.

The fluted shaft is like the state whose glory in getting freedom it portrays—it has size.

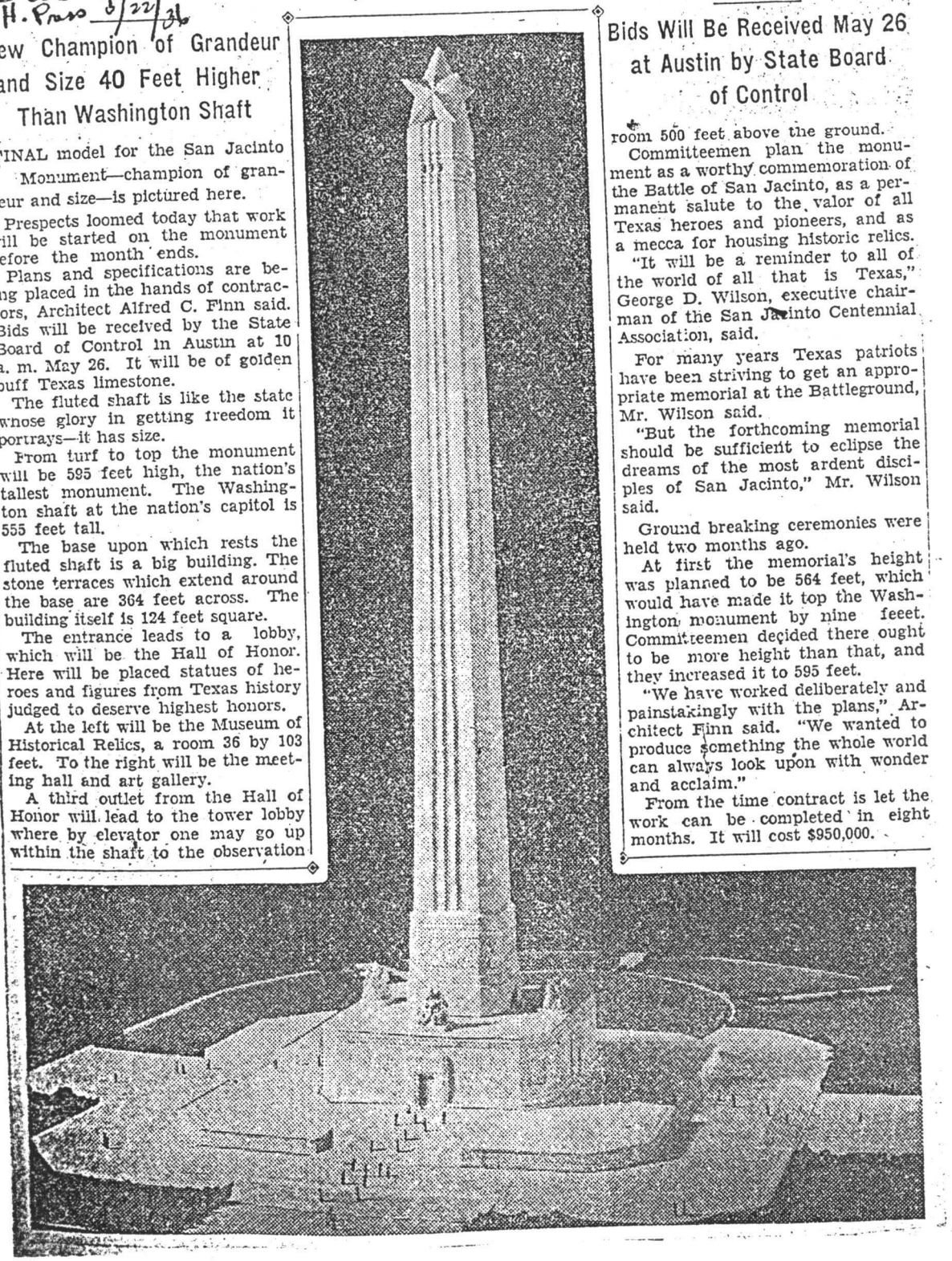
From turf to top the monument will be 595 feet high, the nation's tallest monument. The Washington shaft at the nation's capitol is 555 feet tall.

The base upon which rests the fluted shaft is a big building. The stone terraces which extend around the base are 364 feet across. The building itself is 124 feet square.

The entrance leads to a lobby, which will be the Hall of Honor. Here will be placed statues of heroes and figures from Texas history judged to deserve highest honors.

At the left will be the Museum of Historical Relics, a room 36 by 103 feet. To the right will be the meeting hall and art gallery.

A third outlet from the Hall of Honor will lead to the tower lobby where by elevator one may go up within the shaft to the observation room 500 feet above the ground.



Bids Will Be Received May 26 at Austin by State Board of Control

Committeemen plan the monument as a worthy commemoration of the Battle of San Jacinto, as a permanent salute to the valor of all Texas heroes and pioneers, and as a mecca for housing historic relics.

"It will be a reminder to all of the world of all that is Texas," George D. Wilson, executive chairman of the San Jacinto Centennial Association, said.

For many years Texas patriots have been striving to get an appropriate memorial at the Battleground, Mr. Wilson said.

"But the forthcoming memorial should be sufficient to eclipse the dreams of the most ardent disciples of San Jacinto," Mr. Wilson said.

Ground breaking ceremonies were held two months ago.

At first the memorial's height was planned to be 564 feet, which would have made it top the Washington monument by nine feeet. Committeemen decided there ought to be more height than that, and they increased it to 595 feet.

"We have worked deliberately and painstakingly with the plans," Architect Finn said. "We wanted to produce something the whole world can always look upon with wonder and acclaim."

From the time contract is let the work can be completed in eight months. It will cost $950,000.

San Jacinto June 8 36
Houston Chr.

The San Jacinto Museum

One of the most valuable and interesting features of the great memorial structure to rise at the battlegrounds will be the great wing of the base building to be used as an historical museum. Equipment will be provided here for one of the best museums in the country.

That being the case, all Texans possessing articles which have San Jacinto associations, or relics of any kind having to do with the men who fought there, should preserve them for presentation to this battlefield museum.

Objects associated with General Houston's life at Huntsville may properly be sent to Huntsville, for display in the "Old Steamboat House," the reconstructed home of General Houston. But the San Jacinto Museum should be well stocked with Sam Houston relics, and should be the depository for all objects and documents relating particularly to the battle.

With all due respect to other sites and museums, the statement can be made that many more persons interested in Texas history—including both Texans and non-Texans—will visit the battlefield museum than will pause elsewhere for such a purpose.

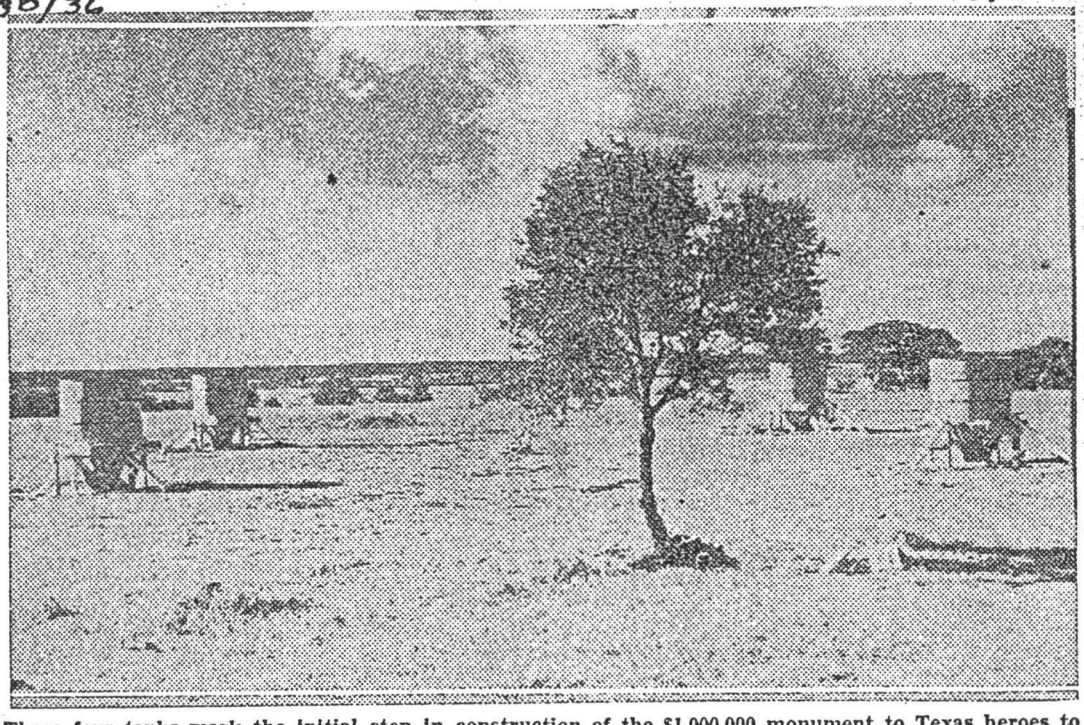
Not only will the battlefield continue to draw its thousands, but the majestic building and tower now to rise will attract additional thousands, and will attract to its own halls the great majority of those who visit the grounds.

At some future time there must be a fund with which to purchase objects of value and interest. And provision must be made for the loan of objects by persons who do not wish to part with them permanently.

Just now, however, the public should be made aware of the early establishment of this important new museum, inspired to make a search for worthwhile San Jacinto historical material, and put on guard against allowing such material to go elsewhere.

WORK STARTS ON SAN JACINTO MONUMENT

H.P.
8/30/36



These four tanks mark the initial step in construction of the $1,000,000 monument to Texas heroes to be erected on San Jacinto battle field as Houston's contribution to the Texas Centennial. The tanks are standing over 15-foot holes, at the bottom of which are steel plates two feet square. The plates are sunk in the ground for the purpose of testing the subsoil for the foundation. The tanks are gradually filled with water to weight the plates. At maximum capacity, they will weigh 35,000 pounds each. F. M. Johnson, resident engineering inspector of the PWA, is supervising the preliminary work. —Staff Photo by Jack Miller.

San Jacinto

WORK OF TRANSFORMING BATTLEFIELD INTO PLACE OF BEAUTY UNDER WAY

Chr 11-1-36

INFORMATION FILE

Work of transforming San Jacinto Battlefield into a place of beauty is under way.

Nearly $2,000,000 has been made available for the undertaking which includes landscaping, erection of a memorial of striking beauty and the construction of facilities making the state park more accessible to visitors.

With the exception of the commemorative memorials, the battleground when completed will look like it did a century ago when General Sam Houston's army routed and defeated General Santa Anna's superior numbers, winning Texas independence from Mexico.

Skilled architects, engineers and learned historians prepared the plans which hundreds of workmen are executing.

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Imposing Tower.

Commanding the whole countryside will be the memorial tower rising 564 feet above the crest of the hill on the battleground proper—a memorial made of concrete and faced with Texas stone—which is being erected at a cost of $1,150,000. The foundation was completed during the past week and the tall shaft will be finished next fall. This is a Public Works Administration project planned by Chairman Jesse H. Jones of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Houstonian who launched and pushed the movement for the appropriate observance of the Texas Centennial.

The architectural design of the monumental shaft was by A. C. Finn, Houston architect, and Robert J. Cummins is the consulting engineer on the job.

Major J. Perry Moore, chairman of the San Jacinto Battlefield State Park board, has general supervision over the entire improvement program, working, of course, with federal and state authorities.

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Federal Aid Used.

The PWA and WPA, two federal agencies, are engaged in this undertaking. While the PWA, under private contract, is building the memorial shaft, the Works Progress Administration is building the breakwater, or bulkhead, along the Houston Ship Channel, and carrying on the landscape work in general. Both enterprises are being undertaken under the sponsorship of the state of Texas through the state board of control.

Construction designed to stop erosion of the Ship Channel bank adjoining that section of the park west of the concrete highway is included in the WPA program. An interlocking sheet steel piling bulkhead with concrete cap and apron 2160 feet long is to be constructed along the channel bank. The bulkhead will serve as a retaining wall to prevent erosion and as a dock for vessels calling at the battlefield. The channel depth along the upper section of the bulkhead for a distance of 1480 feet will be dredged to eight feet below mean low tide, with the soil placed behind the bulkhead as back-fill and terraced to the water's edge. The lower section along the bulkhead will be dredged to channel depth for a distance of 680 feet so that larger ships can dock with ease at the battleground.

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To Employ 1000.

The landscape and beautification work as proposed under the WPA program will employ in the neighborhood of 1000 men for an indefinite period at a cost of some $539,000, Major Moore said.

The federal appropriation for this is $499,900 and the state appropriation $40,000.

The following sums have been appropriated by the WPA for the battlefield improvement: Development of park, $175,000; construction of piers and bulkheads, $44,000; resetting monuments, $5500; shelter houses, $22,000; flag poles and retaining walls, $68,000; rebuilding and repairing rest rooms, $9000; ballustrades, $12,000; plumbing and other buildings, $33,900; tree surgery, $10,000; planting native flowers, $14,000; general landscaping, $58,500. The state's appropriation is to be divided among these various projects as needed.

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One-Fifth Completed.

The landscaping and park development work got under way August 17, and the job is nearly one-fifth completed, Major Moore reported.

In addition a $200,000 WPA project has received presidential approval but has not been started. This includes the extension of the retaining wall by 680 feet and dredging of the channel for docking of large ships, the terracing of grounds around the monument base—not a part of the PWA contract—and the digging of water wells and laying of sewage disposal lines serving the monument. A large amphi-theatre immediately adjoining the monument on the east also is contemplated in this second project.

"The treatment of the battleground is conceived with three thoughts in mind," Major Moore explained. "First, we wish to accent, properly and permanently, the valor of Texas' honor; second, we wish to impress on all the importance of the results of the battle—its effect and influence on the history and progress of Texas and the United States and, finally, as far as practical, we wish to restore the greater portion of the grounds to the natural condition which prevailed when Texas independence was won there a century ago.

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Natural Setting.

"Many changes have been made. The discordant network of unrelated roads which once criss-crossed the camp site of the Texas army has been rearranged to advantage. The old artificial stone gate posts and hedges of wild roses along the main highway have been removed, our thought being that the hedges may have given a wrong impression to the visitors. There were no hedges on the battlefield when the engagement took place, history only relating that trees were sparse or concentrated as 'islands of timber and underbrush.'

"Another contemplated change is the removal of an artificial lake located between the highway and the memorial shaft site. It is believed this lake would prove misleading to the visitor, since during the historic battle this pond was an open, dry draw through which a large portion of the Texas army passed on its march to victory.

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Scene of Battle.

The main highway serving the park cuts the battle ground park in two. In the small western portion is the camp site of the Texas army and in the large eastern section are the Mexican army camp site and the field of battle.

Extending from the memorial terrace in a westerly direction is to be a reflecting basin as magnificent in size and proportion as the great shaft itself, extending westward for a distance of a quarter mile. The basin area will be 400 feet wide.

A broad road will lead along both sides of the basin to the shaft. Secondary roads will lead off these two main roads in graceful curves, fitted to the natural topography of the ground. These secondary roads will lead to the various markers placed some years ago by the Daughters of the Texas Republic, permanently marking various points of interest on the battlefield.

o o o

System Is Simple.

These roads are a portion of a new and simple system designed to restore to a greater degree the simple beauty becoming this once quiet meadow of early Texas people and, at the same time, make it possible for visitors to be conducted through the grounds, Major Moore related.

Two simple roads will lead into the Texas camp site area, both narrower and secondary continuations of the broader, major roads leading to the memorial shaft. The most obvious change in this section is the joining together of many small plots of unrelated ground into a gentle slope, partly wooded. Appropriate walks will be constructed, skirting the camp of the soldiers and extending down to the water's edge.

J. C. McVea, state board of control engineer, had charge of the bulkhead and dock construction work.

Trees native to this section of Texas are to be planted in various appropriate sections of the 317-acre park. Dogwood, hackberry, magnolia and other trees will be selected for their beautiful blossoms and foliage.

Hyacinths will be planted in the marshes, the San Jacinto River skirting the battlefield having received its name from this plant, San Jacinto being the Spanish name of the plant. Those in charge of the improvement also are considering planting beautiful Texas wild flowers on the battlefield.

San Jacinto 9-25-36

Foundation For San Jacinto Memorial Shaft

INFORMATION FILE

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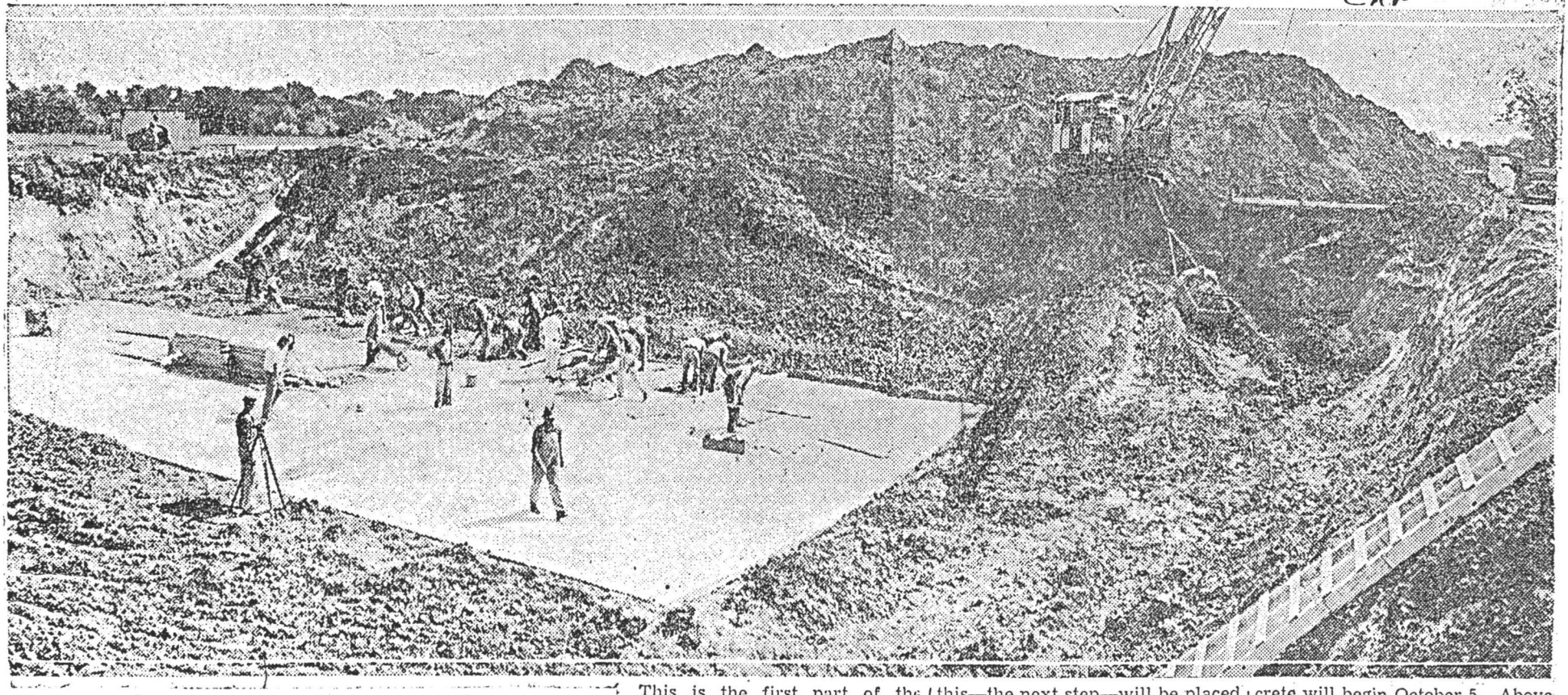

This is the first part of the foundation for the San Jacinto Memorial Shaft now under construction at San Jacinto Battleground. This concrete base is 124 feet square by 15 feet deep. On top of this—the next step—will be placed reinforced steel. Around this steel will be poured concrete to bring the foundation up to the level of the surrounding ground. It is expected the pouring of the concrete will begin October 5. Above this foundation will be two terraces—the first rising six feet and the second nine feet. That will make the entrance to the memorial 15 feet above the ground level.

COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF SAN JACINTO MEMORIAL ISSUED FOR FIRST TIME

H. C. 10/25/36

The first complete description of the huge memorial at San Jacinto Battleground was issued Saturday by H. O. Clarke, Jr., chairman of the Houston Chamber of Commerce San Jacinto Memorial citizens committee. The descriptive matter was drafted by Alfred C. Finn, Houston architect who, together with the Public Works Administration, will supervise construction activities.

Representing committee expenditures of $1,150,000, this magnificent memorial will tower 564 feet above the hallowed soil on which General Sam Houston and his tattered band of fearless patriots defeated General Santa Anna, thus lifting the yoke of Mexican oppression from Texas.

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549 Feet High.

The actual height of the memorial will be 549 feet, the additional footage being represented in the terraces.

Approaching the monument will be two terraces, one rising six feet above the ground and possessing a spread of 364 feet in each direction; the other rising 9 feet and having a spread of 244 feet each way.

The base building of the monument will be 124 feet square and 36 feet high. The entrance approach to this structure will be through a hall of honor, 44 by 45 feet, in which niches will be provided for statues of the heroic men and women who pentrated the wilderness that was Texas 100 years ago.

To the left of the hall of honor will be a museum of historical relics, which will occupy a space 36 by 103 feet. To the right will be a spacious meeting hall and art gallery, matching in size the museum hall.

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Spacious Lobby.

The spacious entrance will run directly through the hall of honor. An elevator will whisk visitors to the observation tower far above the lobby.

The tower shaft will be 47 feet square at the base, tapering to 30 feet at the top.

An amphitheatre seating more than 5000 persons will be included in the rear of the base building.

The memorial will be constructed of reinforced concrete faced with variegated golden buff Texas limestone. This material is of shell formation and when polished has a surface quite similar to Travertine marble. The polished stone will be used for interior work; the rough sawn material for the exterior.

Steps approaching the tower will be made of Texas granite.

Atop the shaft will be a huge star, which will show five points from every direction.

Plastered spaces above the marble finish in the walls of the museum of historical relics and the meeting hall will be decorated with mural paintings, the subject matter of which is yet to be worked out. However, it is believed that these will depict the pageant of Texas history during the past century.

Funds for the erection of this gigantic project were made available through an appropriation by the state of Texas, a grant by the Public Works Administration, the Works Progress Administration and the federal government by direct appropriation.

The estimated cost does not include proposed expenditures for sculptural groups and murals.

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Jones Broke Ground.

Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, who several months ago broke ground for the memorial, using a 100-year-old plow obtained by the San Jacinto Centennial Association, sponsors of the observance, is responsible for the design, it was pointed out Saturday by Mr. Finn. During his Christmas vacation, which he spent in Houston, Mr. Jones planned the begining of the project and during subsequent visits reviewed and dictated the design to its completion.

The base, on which work has been started, will have in it 315 tons of steel, 22 carloads of cement and 1,800,000 gallons of water. Work of pouring concrete for this base is expected to begin Monday.

San Jacinto Shaft Will House Valued Trophies of Texas

Concrete Pouring Starts on Lofty Tower Museum.

H.P. 10/27/36

Treasured relics of Texas pioneers and patriots will find a home in the huge memorial under construction at San Jacinto battle ground.

Into the section set aside for the museum will go weapons used in the battles for Texas freedom, letters from historic characters of the revolution and documents pertaining to Texas history. Many of the relics now are stored in the San Jacinto Centennial Association Museum of Houston, and Texas history, now housed in the public library.

Pouring of concrete at the shaft began Monday. It is the largest single piece of concrete pouring in history and will require 80 hours. Six thousand cubic yards of concrete will go into the shaft base. When finished the base will sustain 146,208,000 pounds.

Representing expenditures of more than $1,150,000, the memorial will tower 564 feet above the soil on which General Sam Houston and his band of Texas patriots defeated Santa Anna, the Mexican general.

Made of Concrete.

The memorial will be constructed of reinforced concrete faced with variegated golden buff Texas limestone. Steps approaching the tower will be of Texas granite. Mural paintings will decorate plastered space above the marble finish in the walls of the museum.

The base building of the shaft will be 124 feet square and 36 feet high. The entrance approach will be through a Hall of Honor, 44 feet by 54 feet, in which niches will be provided for statues of the heroic men and women who penetrated the wilderness that was Texas 100 years ago. The museum and art gallery also will be a part. There will be an amphitheater that will seat 5000 persons.

Among the treasures historians, including L. W. Kemp, Texas historical writer, hope will be placed in the museum are a gun, a Mexican officer's sword and a cannon ball from the field of San Jacinto. They are the property of Clarence R. Wharton, Houston attorney and historian.

Other Relics.

Other articles include a steel engraving of Stephen F. Austin, bearing his signature and dated 1836, owned by Mrs. W. N. Kidd; a letter from Andrew Jackson to General Sam Houston, owned by Mrs. Robert John, a descendant of General Houston; a letter from President David A. Burnet to Captain William H. Patton concerning the guarding of General Santa Anna as a prisoner. The letter is owned by Mrs. Rosa Hanner and Miss Mary A. Todd, descendants of Captain John A. Todd, who commanded the Texas navy.

No organization has been selected to administer the affairs of the museum. Patriotic group leaders, however, believe a joint organization of various societies may collaborate in setting up a body to direct the work of the San Jacinto museum.

San Jacinto Memorial Shaft To Take Largest Concrete Pouring Known in History

CHR. 10-27-36

The largest single pouring of concrete reported in history began at 8:27 a.m. Monday as an army of workmen began laying the base for the $1,150,000 memorial to General Sam Houston's fighting Texans atop the hill of San Jacinto Battlefield. The memorial will be 564 feet high.

This modern battle of San Jacinto will be "fought" for eighty hours. Sam Houston's men in a quarter-hour battle a century ago were able to throw off the yoke of Mexican rule, setting free this mighty imperial state. The job of building a suitable memorial to that achievement takes much longer.

Men will "fight" in eight-hour shifts, three shifts a day. The complicated, modern machinery will turn day and night until the big job is done.

Duplicate stand-by equipment is being held ready for use in event of a break down. There must be no let up in the constant pouring of concrete into the giant hole. The whole base must be one heterogeneius piece of concrete, without any breaks, to hold steady the large monumental shaft which will rise 549 feet above the base. The base will be capable of sustaining 146,208,000 pounds.

Two hundred workmen are on the job, divided among the three shifts.

Directing the work are inspectors, engineers, architects and consultants galore representing the state board of control, Public Works Administration and San Jacinto state park board.

C. A. Bullen, general superintendent of the Bellows Construction Company, contractor, is in charge of the job.

Six thousand cubic yards of concrete are going into the base.

"This means," Bullen said, "120 carloads of gravel, 80 carloads of sand and 20 carloads of cement."

These ingredients are being mixed with 180,000 gallons of water. The white sand comes from San Jacinto River and the gravel from near Victoria. The cement was made in Houston.

A big hole in the ground 15 feet deep in the center and five feet deep on the sides was dug for the base. The base is to be 124 feet square, and the section of the base on which the monumental tower is to rest 48 feet square. Thirteen thousand cubic yards of dirt were removed in excavating the base.

Stretched over the hole into which the concrete is being poured is a circus tent to prevent rains from interfering with the mixing.

Once the job is started, there must be no delay or slowing up until the base is completed.

Mountains of white sand and gravel and excavated dirt surround the base.

A first aid tent and restaurant are near by.

Jack Sanders of the San Jacinto Inn is in charge of the restaurant, serving the workmen hot coffee and sandwiches every four hours, the refreshments being furnished to the men by the contractor without cost.

At the bottom of the hole into which the concrete is poured is a mat of steel bars two inches square and 110 feet long. The matting was made by the laying of 426 bars crosswise, six inches apart.

In addition, 2200 dowel bars (upright steel bars) are being placed in the mat to tie the tall shaft securely into the base.

Four giant concrete mixers are on the job, each with a capacity of 50 cubic yards an hour. Only two, however, are in operation at a time, the others being held for stand by service in case of a breakdown.

One cubic yard of concrete is made at a mixing. The two machines work on opposite sides of the base, each sending a giant bucket of concrete on a boom (shaft rail) to be dumped into the hole. The buckets shuttle back and forth.

As the concrete is poured, men tamp it in place with sticks and electric vibrating machines.

A. C. Finn, architect, and Robert J. Cummins, consulting engineer, have general supervision over the monument job. They planned the monument.

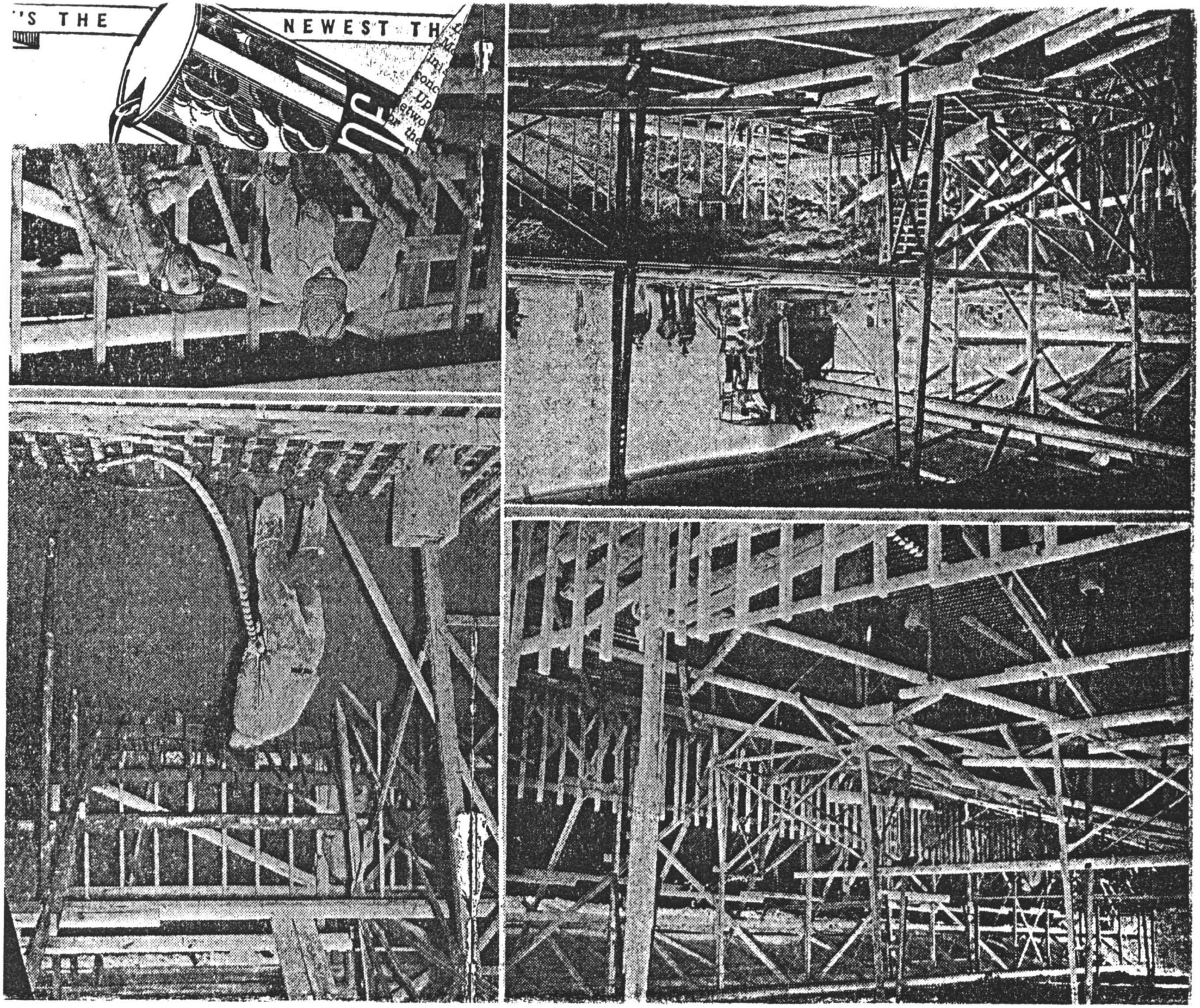
Both were present Monday, and one or the other will be on duty at all times until the base is completed. Mr. Finn will work all night one night and Mr. Cummins will work all night the following night.

Present to watch the work get under way Monday were J. Perry Moore, chairman of the San Jacinto State Park board; Eldred McKinnon, representing the state board of control; Gus Street, Jr., chief engineer-inspector for the PWA in Texas, and numerous other engineers and inspectors for the federal government, which is helping finance this project.

F. M. Johnson is project engineer on the job for the PWA.

A museum and hall will be built on each side of the concrete monumental tower which is to be faced with Texas stone.

After completion of the base, frame work for the tower and other sections will be started and work will continue until the memorial is finished next fall.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100-Year-Old Diary of Mexican Soldier Details San Jacinto and Alamo Battles

Cavalier Joined Texans After Victory.

11-22-31 By ED KILMAN. Post

After 100 years of silence, a soldier in the Texas revolution of 1836 steps forth from the limbo of forgotten men and gives his first public recital of experiences in that war.

He was not a soldier on the Anglo-Texan side; indeed, no Texan could boast the distinction that was his—of having seen action in both major engagements of the revolution, the siege and fall of the Alamo, and the decisive battle of San Jacinto.

It is First Sergeant Santiago Rabia, a cavalier of old Spain, and a member of Santa Anna's crack Tampico regiment, who speaks from the long-hidden pages of a diary, which now sees the light of publication for the first time since it was written a century ago.

In the fine slanting script of Sergeant Rabia, on yellowed sheets of paper recently salvaged from the wreckage of a burned house at Tyler, the story of those battles is told. Although written on the very battle grounds, with the thunder of cannon still ringing in his ears, the accounts of those momentous conflicts are as matter-of-fact as routine official reports. Their historical interest and significance lies in the fact that the diary is a newly discovered addition to the literature and lore of the revolution.

Saved From Fire.

It was brought to light when Mrs. Theodore Wald of Tyler presented a treasure chest of some 74 historic documents and relics to Odell Myers, a high school student of that city, after it was saved from the burning home. Mrs. Wald, a 93-year-old invalid, is a daughter of the Mexican sergeant. She and her husband are devoted friends of young Myers, whose father aided in the rebuilding of their home.

Sergeant Rabia's journal of Santa Anna's invasion is one of the few written by participants that ever came to public notice. It tells of events from the time the army left Mexico, on through the campaign to Santa Anna's surrender, with faded and molded condition of the sheets make translation difficult—in some places impossible. C. E. Castaneda, Latin-American librarian of the University of Texas and a noted translator and editor of original Spanish documents on Texas history, assisted in translating some of the more interesting parts of the Rabia chronicle.

Of the march to Texas and siege of the Alamo he said:

"The 29th day of October, 1835, I marched with my company to Manga de Clavo to join His Excellency, General and President Don Antonio de Santa Anna.

"We returned to Puebla on the 16th of November of the same year; and left on the 21st for Mexico, where we arrived on the 24th.

"We left for Texas on December 6, and we arrived in San Luis Potosi on the 18th of the same month; and we set out for Saltillo on the 30th; and arrived on the 11th of January.

"We left for Monclova the first of February, 1836, and we arrived on the fourth. We set out for the Rio Grande on the eighth and arrived on the 12th. We left for San Antonio de Bexar on the 16th, and arrived on the 23rd of the month stated above.

"The enemy was greeted by three grenades. The siege lasted for 15 days and the assault on the fortification of the Alamo was given on the sixth of March between four and six in the morning. The battalions that took part in the attack were: (names of troops are too dim to be made out.)

500 Mexicans Killed.

"The force that was in the said Alamo consisted of 250 Americans and four women. (Rabia over-estimated the number by about 66.) All of them were killed except one man and the women. (The man presumably was the negro servant of Travis, whom Santa Anna sent forth with Mrs. Dickerson to report the massacre to General Sam Houston.) The dead and wounded in the Mexican forces were about 500."

A distinction of Rabia's brief account of the battle of San Jacinto is that he gave the scene of the battle a name not known to Texans generally. He said:

"This division was defeated by the Americans in the woods on San Jacinto river at the site called Campo del Oso (Bear camp).

"This was between 4:30 and 5:30 in the afternoon. They took 500 prisoners and the remainder of our 1110 men were killed. The force of the Americans must have been about 2500 men. (It was only slightly more than one-third of that number.)

"On the 22nd of the same month they took General Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, president, prisoner, who was in disguise."

Listed Prisoners.

Rabia listed the names of members of his regiment taken prisoners: "Sergeants Maino Bergara, Santiago Rabia, Ramon Meza, Pedro Rojas; Corporals Jose Maria Ramirez, Merced Mendoza, Mariano Baena; Lancers Benito Rocho, Luis Moran, Patricio Carreto, Blas Delgadillo, Trinidad Mercado; and Esteban Casares, soldier.

"Note: Of 30 men of this regiment who came, these are all that appeared; the others were killed or disbanded."

Among other notes in the journal is a quotation of Santa Anna's famous farewell to Texas in the summer of 1836, headed by a reference to the "Mexican Napoleon."

When Santa Anna said goodbye to Texas he included Sergeant Rabia, for the latter remained in the newborn republic and took the oath of allegiance. Other documents in Mrs. Wald's collection indicate that he became a highly respected citizen and fought with the Texans against the Indians. He settled in the vicinity of Nacogdoches, Myers said, and apparently held some public office, for among the old papers in the box were several printed state orders signed by persons of prominence. One of these was signed by Thomas J. Rusk. Several documents refer to Rabia, who was born in Madrid, Spain, as a cavalier.

In the Indian fights Rabia served under Sam Houston as president and commander-in-chief of the Texas military forces. Thus he enjoys the distinction in history of having fought both for and against the great liberator of Texas, and thus, in the end, he may be classed as a Texas patriot.

Allred Asks Removal of His Name From Cornerstone San Jacinto As Patriots Call Memorial Protest Meeting Tonight

Press 4-4-37

GOVERNOR ALLRED asked today that his name be removed from the cornerstone of the $1,150,000 San Jacinto memorial as plans were started in Houston for a mass meeting tonight protesting the inscriptions for the cornerstone.

Soon after Allred announced that he wanted his name omitted, similar requests were received from Lieutenant-Governor Woodul and Coke Stevenson, former speaker of the House.

Objections to the inscriptions originated in Houston, when members of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas learned that the inscriptions would give much prominence to the names of Allred, Jesse H. Jones, Lieutenant-Governor Woodul and others and would contain only a brief tribute to the San Jacinto heroes.

Allred is the first to ask that his name be removed.

The Harris County Historical Society joined the sons and daughters in the protest yesterday and today the Alfred W. Drew Camp, United Spanish War Veterans, released a resolution on the cornerstone urging that it "be not permitted to present the heroes of the Battle of San Jacinto as historical scrogges, secondary to any modern individual or group."

Allred made his request in a letter to the State Board of Control, which is handling the cornerstone contract.

"Of course, I have no authority in the matter, but I see no occasion for having my name on the cornerstone," Allred wrote.

"I have done nothing to merit this. Since the people of Texas and of the nation are responsible for this monument, it occurs to me that it would be much more appropriate to simply state that the monument was erected by the people of Texas and of the nation, without crediting a few of us who happen to be officials with it.

"I would prefer, therefore, that my name not be put on the monument."

He was unaware that his name was to be placed on the monument until receipt of a telegram from the sons and daughters, Allred said.

The telegram to the governor, like one sent to the Board of Control, was signed by Kenneth Krahl, president of the Houston Chapter, Sons of the Republic, and Mrs. Madge Hearne of Houston, head of the Daughters and Grand-daughters of Gen. Sam Houston.

Claude Teer, chairman of the Board of Control, had not received the Allred letter early today.

Upon receipt of the organization's telegram Monday he said cognizance of the protest would be taken by the board but action was "not likely."

John Wallace of the Board of Control said the board will go ahead with its plans.

"If they want to withdraw, that's all right," he said. "It is customary for the names of the builders to be placed on cornerstones. We will have the names of every man who fought in the battle carved in big letters on the front of the monument. This little cornerstone is for the northeast side."

Members of both Houses of the Legislature are incensed over the proposed inscriptions, Austin dispatches say.

Mutterings indicated possibility of some legislative activity if the board of control does not back down. The board approved the lettering after holding up action for a day on account of protests.

Governor Allred said he first learned of the proposed wording from telegrams of protest.

"I want to be acquitted of any knowledge of this," the governor said at press conference. "I was not consulted about it. I am not even on the centennial commission. I purposely made Walter Woodul chairman of it. If I recall rightly my name is not even on the Centennial Building at Dallas.

He added with a broad grin:

"Files of the Houston newspapers will have enough mention of my name for posterity."

In another aside, Allred recalled that John L. Lewis, labor leader, had said "Who is this guy Allred?"

"Maybe they had better put my name in a more conspicuous place," he joked.

Stevenson, in discussing his withdrawal, said he could see no reason why his name should be on the cornerstone.

"I think I can convince the board it is wrong," he said.

Text of Protest

The telegram of protest from Mrs. Hearne and Mr. Krahl said:

"The San Jacinto Chapters of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas vigorously protest inscription on the cornerstone of San Jacinto Memorial the names of public officials and prominent citizens and believe that these names should be placed on bronze plaques in Memorial Hall, along with the names of Sam Houston and the men who fought with him. The Board of Control has ignored our protest to them. A joint meeting of the Sons and Daughters of the Rpublic of Texas and other patriotic societies has been called for 8 o'clock Wednesday night to discuss further action. We should like to know your views on this matter so they can be read to this meeting. We are all unanimous that Honorable Jesse H. Jones should lay the stone but believe that the inscription on it should be a tribute to the men who fought and died at San Jacinto."

The mass meeting tonight will be at the pioneer log cabin in Hermann Park.

The Daughters and Sons of the Republic of Texas are sponsoring the meeting, but heads of the groups asked all interested persons to join in the protest.

Wires were sent last night to Vice President Garner, Governor Allred and Lieutenant Governor Woodul, protesting the inscriptions and pointing out that the Board of Control has ignored all protests to date.

HEROES TO GET FULL HONORS IN MEMORIAL

Names of Battle Participants to Be Listed on Front of Auditorium, State Official Says.

By Staff Correspondent.

Austin, April 8.—John Wallace, member of the board of control, said Wednesday "the public it being misled" in connection with plans for recognizing the heroes of San Jacinto in the San Jacinto Memorial.

"The heroes are being given the whole show," Mr. Wallace said.

"Their names are to be spread across the front of the auditorium, at the entrance to the building. These names will be the first thing seen by anyone approaching the memorial. Names of the heroes of San Jacinto—and these men alone—will appear in this prominent spot.

"The cornerstone has been planned, as is customary, to carry the names of state and federal officials responsible for the monument, and those connected with the building of the monument."

Mr. Wallace spoke in reply to charges made by Houstonians that the cornerstone should contain only a tribute to the men who died at San Jacinto.

In answer to these charges, contained in a telegram sent to Governor Allred by presidents of the San Jacinto chapter, Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the governor asked that his name be removed.

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"Campaign of Deception."

Shortly before noon Lieut. Governor Walter Woodul asked that his name be left off the cornerstone. This move was followed by a similar request from Coke Stevenson, speaker of the house while the monument was under consideration.

"Of course," Mr. Wallace said, "we are not going to put any of these officials' names on the cornerstone if they don't want them on. I will say, however, that it is customary to include such names on a cornerstone such as this."

Mr. Wallace added that he thought the campaign of deception ought to be brought to light—that it is entirely unfair for "certain individuals" to give an erroneous picture to the public of plans for recognition of the heroes of San Jacinto by intimating that only contemporary persons are to be recognized.

"They are not telling the whole story," he said." "They are attempting to leave the impression that the heroes of San Jacinto are ignored, whereas they are the only ones being given prominent recognition.

"Their names will be carved in tall letters for all to see. The little cornerstone with the names of those responsible for the building of the monument from state and federal funds will have a most insignificant spot."

Mr. Wallace pointed out that the cornerstone is to be located at the rear of the building—" the last thing to be seen by those visiting the monument."

San Jacinto

INSCRIPTION FOR SHAFT IS REDRAWN HERE

CHR 9-13-37

Representatives of Historical and Patriotic Societies Reword Statement, Send It to State Board.

Rewording of the inscription for the San Jacinto Memorial shaft at the battleground was decided on finally at a four-hour meeting of representatives of state historical and patriotic societies at the Chamber of Commerce Monday afternoon, and the final draft of the inscription was sent to the state board of control at Austin.

According to the legislature's ruling that the names of no living persons be placed on the monument, the inscription will read simply: Erected by the United States of America and the State of Texas, A. D. 1936.

"Dedicated to the Heroes of the Battle of San Jacinto and all others whose deeds won for Texas Liberty and Independence, April 21, 1836."

Kemp Presides.

L. W. Kemp, chairman of the state historical board, presided at the meeting. The new inscription was worded after a discussion by the seven persons at the meeting. Besides Mr. Kemp, those at the meeting were Mrs. Carrie F. Kemp and Judge John M. Moore of Richmond, presidents of the Daughters and Sons of the Republic of Texas, respectively; Mrs. Madge Hearne and Kenneth Krahl, local chapter presidents of the same organizations; W. E. Kendall, member of the San Jacinto state park board, and J. Perry Moore, chairman of the San Jacinto park board.

The committee's rewording of the inscription is the final step in a series of bickerings and protests about the inscription which was brought to a head last week by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas here at a public meeting.

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Dedication Plans Made.

Announcement of plans for the formal dedication of the monument on April 21 was made at the meeting.

Claude D. Teer, chairman of the state board of control, will open the program. Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, will deliver the principal address of the day, and the arrangements committee is seeking to have Governor James V. Allred introduce Mr. Jones.

The presentation of wreaths and the sealing of the corner stone will conclude the morning program.

In the afternoon, Robert Calvert, speaker of the house in the state legislature, will be the main speaker on a program sponsored by the Sons and Daughters of the Republic. George D. Sears and W. E. Kendall also will be on the program.

Thousands to See RFC Chief Seal Historical Documents in Tallest U. S. Monument Today

INFORMATION FILE

Battle Field Ceremonies Will Feature Celebration of 101st Anniversary of Freedom by Texans.

STATE LEGISLATORS TO ATTEND

21-Gun Salute to Republic of Texas Will Be Fired as Patriotic Pay Tribute to Houston's Men.

Post 4-21-37

Last April Jesse Jones came home from Washington to break ground for a $1,100,000 monument to the men of San Jacinto.

Wednesday, on the same spot where he drove a team of oxen in the ground breaking ceremony of a year ago, the chairman of the Reconstruction Finance corporation will seal in place the cornerstone of the shaft.

Next April, if nothing goes awry, the completed monument, tallest in the United States, will tower above the San Jacinto oaks.

The cornerstone laying will be the high point of the all day celebration of San Jacinto day. Mr. Jones, who arrived in Houston Tuesday from Washington, will deliver the principal address of the dedication service. The cornerstone was lifted into place on the foundation of the monument Tuesday.

With all public offices and many private business houses closed for the day, thousands of Houstonians will go to the battle ground for the program.

Cloudy Day Forecast.

The weather forecast for Wednesday was partly cloudy and probable showers.

Among those present will be a large delegation from the Texas legislature. The legislators will arrive at the Southern Pacific station at 5:30 a. m., where they will be met by Mayor R. H. Fonville, city commissioners, county commissioners, representatives of the chamber of commerce and others.

Breakfast at Club.

The solons will breakfast at the Houston club at 6:30 a. m. and then go to the battle ground by boat.

The San Jacinto memorial service will get under way at 10 a. m. with an R. O. T. C. flag raising ceremony.

Claude D. Teer, chairman of the state board of control, will present state officials and John F. Wallace, a member of the state board of control, will introduce the master of ceremonies, Lieutenant Governor Walter F. Woodul.

A 21-gun salute to the Republic of Texas will be fired by Battery E, 132nd field artillery, commanded by Maj. Paul G. Bell, and patriotic selections will be played by the First city band, Houston high schools, led by Victor Alessandro.

Rev. J. H. H. Ellis, chaplain of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, will give the invocation.

After Mr. Jones' address and the ceremony of sealing the corner stone, representatives of various patriotic organizations will place wreaths on the stone.

Luncheon Scheduled.

Legislators, state officials and other honor guests will attend a luncheon at San Jacinto inn at noon.

Kenneth Krahl, president of the San Jacinto chapter, Sons of the Republic of Texas, will preside at the afternoon program, opening at 2 p. m.

Robert W. Calvert of Hillsboro, speaker of the Texas house, will be the main speaker.

Chilton Bryan will read Gen. Sam Houston's report of the battle of San Jacinto.

Greetings of the D. R. T. will be extended by Mrs. Carrie Franklin Kemp and of the S. R. T. by John M. Moore Jr. Mrs. Madge Houston Hearne will deliver the message of the president of San Jacinto chapter, D. R. T.

D. R. T. medals for the two best essays written by Houston school children on "Colonial Citizenship of Texas" will be presented by Mrs. A. Y. Bryan. R. J. James and T. L. Fontaine will give the awards offered by the junior chamber of commerce for the best school essays on "Gen. Sidney Sherman."

The benediction will be by Mrs. B. H. Habermacher, chaplain of San Jacinto chapter, D. R. T.

Reception Is Planned.

The legislators and other official visitors will return to Houston for a reception at the Rice hotel.

Articles and historic documents to be placed in the cornerstone of the monument will include:

Copy of documents of Major General Sam Houston, commander-in-chief of the Texan army, to his excellency, David G. Burnet, president of the Republic of Texas, containing a detailed account of the battle of San Jacinto. Gonzales: Inquirer office, 1874.

Copy of proceedings of the convention of Texas veterans held at Houston, May 13, 14 and 15, 1873, together with a list of veterans. Also the speech of Hon. Guy M. Bryan delivered on the occasion. Galveston: Printed at the News book and job office, 1873.

Six Flags of Texas.

The Six Flags of Texas, an authentic reproduction of the flags to which Texas has paid allegiance. Used at speaker's table at the city of Houston one hundredth birthday celebration, August 30, 1936.

Collection of pictures presented by a granddaughter of General Sam Houston: Sam Houston as governor of Tennessee; photograph of painting by Seymour Thomas, "General Sam Houston;" Sam Houston in 1853; program of ceremonies unveiling of the bust of Sam Houston; old hall of the House of Delegates, state capitol, Richmond, Va., Tuesday, June 18, 1935; reproductions of murals in Southern Pacific passenger station, Houston; "Stephen F. Austin" and "Sam Houston."

Centennial edition of the annual of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and proceedings of the forty-fifth annual meeting, June 3, 4 and 5, 1936.

United States of America silver half dollars, Texas Centennial coins, 1934 and 1936.

Copy of Centennial edition of year book of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, 1935-1936.

Copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence, signed March 2, 1836.

Copy of Centennial edition of Naylor's Epic Century magazine, April, 1936, including a sketch of the life of Margaret Lea, wife of Sam Houston.

Sheet of United States postage, 3-cent Texas Centennial stamps.

Eight first day philatelic covers, mailed March 2, 1936, from Gonzales, and the seven capitals, San Felipe, Washington, Harrisburg, Velasco, West Columbia, Houston and Austin.

Copy of address of Hon. Jesse Jones upon the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the San Jacinto memorial, Wednesday, April 21, 1937.

Copy of San Jacinto day address of Hon. Robert W. Calvert, speaker of the Texas house of representatives, delivered on San Jacinto battle field, Wednesday.

Copy of pamphlet published by Houston chamber of commerce, entitled "The San Jacinto Battle Field."

Copy of program of exercises at San Jacinto battlefield, April 21, 1937.

Copy of The Houston Post of April 21, 1937, Houston Chronicle and Houston Press of April 20, 1937.

Photograph of General Sidney Sherman.

Photograph of San Jacinto flag as restored.

Copy of book, "San Jacinto—The Sixteenth Decisive Battle," by Clarence R. Wharton.

Copy of book, "History of Texas, An Outline," by George O'Brien John.

Copies of three other addresses by Mr. Jones, all dealing with the Centennial and with Texas history, delivered respectively in Fort Worth, Washington and New York.

Signatures of Moses Austin and Stephen F. Austin.

A copy of The Post of March 28, 1936, with stories and pictures of work at the battle field.

A plan of the battle field.

A roster of members of the Junior chamber of commerce and a copy of the magazine Houston.

List of historic documents and articles deposited in the corner stone of San Jacinto memorial.

Jesse Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, arrived in Houston from Washington at 8:55 a. m. Thursday, accompanied by Mrs. Jones.

He came home to help dedicate the $1,100,000 monument at San Jacinto battle ground Wednesday.

At the railroad station to meet him were a few relatives, friends and business associates. They included Mr. and Mrs. Tilford Jones, R. B. Doherty, W. N. Blanton and George Butler.

Accompanying Mr. and Mrs. Jones was A. D. Simpson, president of the National Bank of Commerce, who joined them in Little Rock, Ark.

AUSTIN, April 20.—(Sp)—The following members of the Texas legislature will visit Houston and the San Jacinto battle field Wednesday:

Representatives Adkins of Brady, Alexander of Childress, Amos of Fort Worth, Baker of Rosenberg, Beckworth of Gilmer, Bell of Cuero, Boyer of Perryton, Bradford of Grand Falls, Bridges of El Paso, Broadfoot of Bonham, Brown of Jacksonville, Cagle of Waco, Callan of Kaufman.

Carssow of San Antonio, Cauthorn of Del Rio, Celaya of Brownsville, Davis of Haskell, Davisson of Eastland, Dean of Hamlin, Derden of Marlin, Dollins of Waco, England of McKinney, Farmer of Fort Worth, Felty of San Antonio, Fox of Taylor, Fuchs of Brenham, Gibson of Longview, Harbin of Dublin, Harper of Jefferson, Harrell of Paris, Harris of Spur, Harris of Archer City, Harris of Dallas, Heflin of Houston, Holland of Belton, Hoskins of Gonzales, Howard of Houston, Huddleston of Oglesby.

Hull of Fort Worth, Jackson of El Paso, James of Cameron, Johnson of Fort Worth, Johnson of Waxahachie, Jones of Lufkin, Keefe of Frankston, Keith of Sherman, Kanyon of Galveston, Kern of Cooper, Langdon of Glen Rose, Leath of Henderson, Leonard of McAllen, Leyendecker of Laredo, Little of Amarillo, Loggins of Goodrich, Mann of Houston, Mauritz of Ganado, Mays of Atlanta, McConnell of Palo Pinto, McCracken of San Antonio, McDonald of Bryan, McFarland of Wichita Falls, McKee of Port Arthur.

Moffett of Chillicothe, Monkhouse of Uvalde, Morse of Houston, Oliver of Center, Prescott of Santa Anna, Ragsdale of Crockett, Reed of Dallas, Rhodes of Hearne, Russell of Cleburne, Schuenemann of Kenedy, Settle of Abernathy, Sewell of Midlothian, Sharpe of Paris, Shell of Gregory, Simpson of Eden, Skaggs of Deport, Stevenson of Junction, Tarwater of Plainview, Tennant of Longview, Thornberry of Austin, Vale of Rio Grande City, Waggoner of Whitewright, Walker of Vernon, Weldon of Canton, Winfree of Houston, Wood of Marshall.

Senators Isbell of Rockwall, Moore of Houston, Neal of Mirando City, Oneal of Wichita Falls, Rawlings of Fort Worth, Stone of Brenham, Beck of Texarkana, Burns of Huntsville, R. A. Weinert of Seguin, Hill of Henderson, Lieutenant Governor Walter Woodul of Houston.

Warm Tribute Paid Pioneers By Jesse Jones

RFC Chairman Dedicates Cornerstone and Seals Within It Documents Symbolic of Early and Modern Texas.

BY JERRY DONOGHUE,
Staff Correspondent.

San Jacinto Battleground, April 21.—Texas builds tall monuments to her heroic dead.

On this San Jacinto Day, thousands gathered at the base of the memorial which will rise higher than any other edifice in the state to hear Jesse Holman Jones, worthy successor in the heroic ideals of the first great Texans, pay warm tribute to the men who won the battle of independence on this spot 101 years ago today.

Mr. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and the man whose work made the building of the great memorial possible, dedicated the cornerstone.

The cornerstone was not formally sealed because of a structural fault which developed in the carving. The copper box containing the historical documents was deposited with C. A. Bullen, superintendent for Bellows Construction Company, for safekeeping.

In a ringing speech, the tall silver-haired Texan reminded the crowd that "there would have been no United States, as we know it today, had it not been for the battle of San Jacinto."

Continuing, Mr. Jones said that the men of early Texas had the same spirit of independence which in 1776 had fired the colonists of the United States, and those men of Texas were allied by every human tie to the United States rather than the republic of Mexico.

He cited historians who wrote that between the battle of Marathon of 400 B. C. to Waterloo there were only 15 decisive battles—battles which influenced the history of the world.

"Judged by these standards, the battle of San Jacinto should rank as the sixteenth decisive battle of the world," he said.

"There was a new world in the making then. The men of San Jacinto and other Texas heroes were willing to meet dangers and hardships. They were not concerned with the conditions they endured but rather with the promise of what lay ahead."

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Reasons Are Given.

Giving the reasons for the Texas revolution, Mr. Jones pointed out that the Texas colonists had been deprived of common justice and of civil liberties. He briefly sketched events leading up to the break with Mexico, mentioning the constitutional convention which was considered "treasonable" by Mexico.

"The dark days of the colonists of the United States never were so gloomy as the days following the Texas declaration of independence," Mr. Jones said.

"But the massacre at the Alamo aroused Texas. The hallowed traditions of the United States would not be what they are were it not for the Alamo."

Mr. Jones only sketched the story of the battle of San Jacinto.

"The battle took only 30 minutes, we are told," he declared. "But a new republic was born. The battle meant freedom for Texas.

"But more was accomplished on this battleground than victory. There would have been no Texas, no New Mexico, California, parts of Utah, Kansas and Oklahoma, had not this battle been won and a new way opened up to settlers."

Commenting on Mr. Jones' speech, former Governor James E. Ferguson said: "Mr. Jones' speech is of the highest value, not only as an historical document but because it reflects a tremendous grasp of current problems."

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Crowd Gathers.

By the time the ceremonies started shortly after 10 a.m. several thousand had gathered at the monument. The chairs on the speakers' platform were all taken—many of the honored guests being descendants of the heroes of the battle of San Jacinto.

The main crowd was massed in front of the flag decorated speakers' stand seated on benches, with many standing at the back. The uniforms of the 133rd Field Artillery, the R. O. T. C. unit and the first city band of Houston made colorful spots in the crowd.

There was an honorary salute of 21 guns to the former republic of Texas by the Second Battalion, 133rd Field Artillery and Battery E 132nd Field Artillery.

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Guests Presented.

State representatives were introduced and other distinguished guests presented to the crowd.

Following this, "America," led by Walter Jenkins, was sung as the crowd stood with bared heads.

There was another song, one dear to the hearts of Texans, "Will You Come to the Bower," the battle song of the warriors at San Jacinto.

Then Mr. Jones began his address. The climax of his message came when he sealed the cornerstone after the copper box containing a score of historical documents had been placed within.

Solemn honor to heroic dead was paid by the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas as representatives of those patriotic bodies placed wreaths upon the front of the cornerstone.

Honor participants in the ceremony were introduced. They were Col. Andrew Jackson Houston, only living son of Gen. Sam Houston; Mrs. Lucy Sherman Craig; Mrs. Charles Milby and Mrs. Hally Bryan Perry.

Scheduled on the afternoon program to follow a luncheon at San Jacinto Inn for members of the legislature and other honored guests, was a program with Kenneth Khral presiding, president of the San Jacinto Chapter, Sons of the Republic of Texas. After greetings from the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and a number of short talks by the heads of these organizations, there was an address by Robert W. Calvert, speaker of the house of representatives.

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Teer Starts Program.

Claude D. Teer, chairman of the state board of control, started the program at 10:25 a.m.

He called upon Rev. J. H. Ellis, chaplain of the Sons of the Republic, who delivered the invocation.

Rev. Mr. Ellis prayed thanks to God for "our country, our great state that is sending out a light to all other states, the nation and all of the world as to the glorious history of the great State of Texas.

"We thank thee, O God, for the man that is this day to lay the cornerstone. We thank thee for his excellent effort along this line. We thank thee for the Sons and Daughters of the Republic. We thank thee, O God, for the memorial already erected in heaven to the memory of our heroes of San Jacinto—a memorial that will last down through the ages—long after this one which we mortal men are now dedicating has passed into history.

"May this day glorify our countrymen and heroes of Texas in heaven."

Teer said: "This great project that you now behold is a part of the efforts of a great many people. It originated in the congress of the United States through the efforts of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Vice President John Nance Garner and Mr. Jesse Jones, as well as Governor Allred, the state board of control, Daughters and Sons of the Republic, and state legislature."

Teer explained that the cornerstone was not lettered other than bearing the immortal words—San Jacinto.

"This is so because there was an accident which broke out some of the lettering, but we had a conference this morning and have all agreed upon the lettering. The lettering will be satisfactory to all. The stone will have to be taken back to the mechanics for further lettering. But the lettering will be just as it has been agreed upon by all."

Teer then called out the names of about 25 persons who had aided in the consummation of the memorial.

A luncheon was held at San Jacinto Inn at noon in honor of the solons and Texas visitors.

At 2 p.m. a ceremony in charge of Sons and Daughters of the Republic will begin. Kenneth Krahl, president of the Sons of the Republic, will preside and will introduce Robert W. Calvert, speaker of the house, who will be the principal speaker.

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To Present Medals.

Welcome from the D. R. T. will be given by Mrs. Carrie Franklin Kemp, and of the S. R. T. by John M. Moore, Jr., Mrs. Madge Houston Hearne will deliver the president's address.

Medals for San Jacinto essays will be presented to two Houston school children. The benediction will be given by Mrs. B. H. Habermacher, chaplain of San Jacinto chapter, D. R. T.

Following the ceremonies, Austin officials and legislators will return to Houston for a reception at the Rice Hotel at 5 p.m. They will entrain for return to the capital at midnight.

Documents and Articles Placed in Cornerstone

The following is a list of historic documents and articles to be deposited in the cornerstone of the memorial shaft:

Copy of documents of Maj. Gen. Sam Houston, commander in chief of the Texan army, to his excellency, David G. Burnet, president of the Republic of Texas, containing a detailed account of the battle of San Jacinto. Gonzales: Inquirer office, 1874.

Copy of proceedings of the convention of Texan veterans held at Houston, May 13, 14 and 15, 1873, together with a list of veterans now living. Also the speech of Hon. Guy M. Bryan, delivered on the occasion. Galveston: Printed at the News Book and Job Office, 1873.

The Six Flags of Texas, an authentic reproduction of the flags to which Texas has paid allegiance. Used at speaker's table at the City of Houston 100th birthday celebration, August 30, 1936.

Collection of pictures presented by a granddaughter of Gen. Sam Houston: Sam Houston as governor of Tennessee; photograph of painting by Seymour Thomas, "Gen. Sam Houston;" Sam Houston in 1853; program of ceremonies unveiling of the bust of Sam Houston; Old Hall of the House of Delegates, State Capitol, Richmond, Va., Tuesday, June 18, 1935; reproductions of murals in Southern Pacific Railroad pasenger station, Houston; "Stephen F. Austin" and "Sam Houston."

Centennial edition of the annual of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and proceedings of the forty-fifth annual meeting, June 3, 4 and 5, 1936.

United States of America silver half dollars, Texas Centennial coins, 1934 and 1936.

Copy of Centennial edition of year book of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, 1935-1936.

Copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence signed March 2, 1836.

Copy of Centennial edition of Naylor's Epic Century Magazine, April, 1936, including a sketch of the life of Margaret Lea, wife of Sam Houston.

Sheet of United States postage, 3-cent Texas Centennial stamps.

Eight first day Philatelic Covers, mailed March 2, 1936, from Gonzales, and the seven capitals, San Felipe, Washington, Harrisburg, Velasco, West Columbia, Houston and Austin.

Copy of address of Hon. Jesse Holman Jones upon the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of the San Jacinto Memorial, Wednesday, April 21, 1937.

Copy of San Jacinto Day address of Hon. Robert W. Calvert, speaker of the Texas house of representatives, delivered on San Jacinto Battlefield; Wednesday.

Copy of pamphlet published by Houston Chamber of Commerce entitled "The San Jacinto Battlefield."

Copy of program of exercises at San Jacinto Battlefield, April 21, 1937.

Copy of the Houston Post of April 21, 1937, Houston Chronicle and Houston Press of April 20, 1937.

Photograph of Gen. Sidney Sherman.

Photograph of San Jacinto Flag as restored.

Copy of book, "San Jacinto—The Sixteenth Decisive Battle," by Clarence R. Wharton.

Copy of book, "History of Texas, An Outline," by George O'Brien John.

Signatures of Moses Austin and Stephen F. Austin.

List of historic documents and articles deposited in the cornerstone of San Jacinto Memorial.

Lieutenant Governor Walter Woodul read five telegrams, all addressed to Mr. Jones, commenting on the occasion.

Among these were one from the president of the United States, and addressed "Dear Jesse."

Another was from Vice President John Nance Garner, while the other three were from members of the president's cabinet.

Excerpts from President Roosevelt's telegram to RFC Chairman Jesse H. Jones, read Wednesday at the San Jacinto Memorial ceremonies:

"Dear Jesse:

"Because of the uncertainty as to just when it will be necessary for me to return to Washington from my next trip to Texas, it seems inadvisable for your committee to change the date for the San Jacinto Memorial ceremonies, much as I should like to participate in them.

"I recall with much pleasure my visit to San Jacinto Battlefield in June, 1936, and shall take advantage of the first opportunity to visit it again, perhaps on my next trip to Texas.

"I hope you will assure the people of Texas that I most heartily commend their desire to erect a fitting monument to the memory of the men who offered their lives to win Texas independence; those who gave their lives at the Alamo and at Goliad as well as those who participated in the battle of San Jacinto. I wish it might have been possible for me to accept your invitation to lay the cornerstone to this magnificent memorial.

(Signed) "Franklin D. Roosevelt."

Daniel C. Roper's telegram read in part:

"All Texas and all Americans feel a debt of gratitude to Jesse Jones for his work in the consummation of this great San Jacinto memorial."

Roper is secretary of commerce.

Othere telegrams were from Cordell Hull, secretary of state who "greatly regretted his inability to be present," and Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture.

Full Text of Jesse H. Jones Address at Battlegrounds

Chr. 4-21-37

Following is the address delivered by Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, at the laying of the cornerstone of the San Jacinto Memorial Wednesday:

We are assembled to lay the cornerstone of this monument which is being erected to honor the memory of the men who offered their lives to win the independence of Texas.

Few battles of the world have been more decisive or had a greater influence over civilization than the battle of San Jacinto. It changed the map of the North American continent and opened the way for the United States to extend its boundary to the Rio Grande and the Pacific Ocean. It sealed the destiny of the Texas Republic and confirmed its declaration of independence. It established liberty where tyranny sought to enthrone itself.

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A Glorious Day.

We are here on the anniversary of that battle—a glorious day in the annals of Texas. A day which more than any other gives Texas a history peculiarly and distinctly its own—unlike the histories of many other states of the Union which are so blended with that of the nation that their individuality is largely lost. This much our state and national histories did have in common, however, that spirit of independence which had driven the colonists to rebellion in 1776.

Authorities generally accept the statement by Sir Edward Creasy, the English historian, who wrote that there had been but 15 decisive battles from Marathon, 490 B. C., to Waterloo, 1815 A. D. Sir Edward chose only those battles in which a contrary result would have essentially changed the drama of the world. Measured by the arguments which he employed, San Jacinto, which was fought only 21 years after Waterloo, would be reckoned the sixteenth.

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Pressing Westward.

The pioneers of the early nineteenth century, having forced the young nation's frontiers to the Mississippi, were still pressing westward. The majority of these were men who had come across the Alleghenies, or from the settlements of Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri, into this vast virgin territory, then a part of Mexico. The spirit of independence was theirs. Veterans of Concord, Lexington, Saratoga and Yorktown still lived. Jefferson's acquisition of the Louisiana territory and the second war for independence were events of recent history. And be it not forgotten, the people of Mexico themselves won their independence from Spain but 15 years before San Jacinto.

This was an adventurous period. The new world was in the making and men were willing to meet the difficulties, dangers and hardships that came with carrying civilization further west. It was not so much under what government they lived, as the promise of what lay ahead. They were willing to abide by the conditions imposed by the Mexican government when it gave to Stephen F. Austin permission to settle colonists in Texas and to grant to each settler a tract of land. These conditions were Mexican citizenship, and the adoption of the religion of Rome. But by race, language, sympathy and every natural tie, the Texans were more closely allied with and more akin to the people of the United States.

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Colonists Subjugated.

The continually increasing population of Texas, its prosperity, and close affiliation with the United States, all served to arouse suspicion and anxiety on the part of the Mexican authorities, and prompted them to subjugate the colonists.

During the campaign of subjugation, the Texans were deprived of the fundamental safeguards of justice and equality to which Americans were devoted. Their civil liberties and property rights were restricted; trial by jury, the right of accused persons to bail, and public education for their children were taken away. Their grievances approached a climax, when in 1830, a colonization law was passed by Mexico, forbidding further immigration from the United States. The situation was made more intolerable for the Texans by the posting of troops throughout the province, and the imposition of custom duties to support this army.

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Sought Peaceful Remedy.

Although resentment of this treatment burned deeply into the souls of the Texas colonists, they sought a peaceful remedy. In 1832 and 1833 citizens of Texas met in convention and passed resolutions for the redress of their grievances. But conventions were unfamiliar to the Mexican authorities as a means of securing redress, and were looked upon as treasonable, and seditious.

The events and causes which led up to the struggle for Texas independence bear a close resemblance to those that precipitated this nation's earlier struggle for liberty and freedom.

Stephen Austin went to Mexico City to plead the cause of the Texas colonies, but was imprisoned by the Mexican government for almost a year. This completely disillusioned him, and convinced him that the only course remaining for the Texas colonists was that leading to freedom.

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Became Intolerable.

When continued ignominies finally became intolerable, and all efforts for a peaceful solution failed, the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836, was as natural a consequence as that memorable document signed 60 years before at Philadelphia.

The dark days of the American revolution were never as gloomy as those which beset Texas following its declaration of independence.

Braver men or greater heroes never died for the cause of liberty than those who died at the Alamo. And without the tradition of the Alamo, America would lack one of the noblest symbols of its spirit.

Travis had 183 men with scant rations and limited ammunition. The besieging Mexicans had probably 20 times that number of men with the best fighting equipment of the day. Hence the fall of the Alamo and the fate of Travis and his men were inevitable since Travis refused to surrender. In his appeal for reinforcements, he wrote: "I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible, and die like a soldier who never forgets what is due his own honor and that of his country. Victory or death!"

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Unspeakable Act.

While Travis chose to die fighting rather than to surrender, history does not record a more inhuman act than the massacre of Col. James W. Fannin and his 400 stout-hearted, ragged young Americans who were shot down by a firing squad of Mexican soldiers at Goliad after having been promised honorable treatment as prisoners of war as a condition of their surrender.

I do not like to believe that the Mexican soldiers who executed this inhuman order, which came directly from General Santa Anna himself, did so willingly, and there is some evidence in support of this thought.

It was this unspeakable act, following the fall of the Alamo, that aroused the Texans and fired them with a determination to avenge these deaths and to make Texas freedom secure.

On April 21, 1836, Gen. Sam Houston's army of Texas independence faced the flower of the Mexican army led by the president of that country here at San Jacinto. The story of that battle has been too often told for me to repeat it here today. But I do want to make slight reference to it.

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Texans Determined.

On the one side was arrayed a paid army, well clothed, armed with the best military equipment of the age, trained to warfare and encouraged by the personal command of their ruler. On the other side was a much smaller army of more or less bedraggled men, including only a few regulars, poorly clad, half starved, without suitable arms, disgruntled because of delay and retreat, disheartened by the loss of their countrymen under Travis at the Alamo and Fannin at Goliad, but prepared to fight with all the ferocity and determination that could be aroused by unjust oppression and by the perilous plight of their homes and their helpless wives and children. The disparity in numbers served only to make them more confident.

Houston addressed his men with eloquence and earnestness. His speech brought them together, aroused their patriotism and filled their souls with a righteous vengeance. He bade them trust in God and fear not, "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" This was the battle cry that spurred the Texans to victory here at San Jacinto.

In less than 30 minutes the inhuman butchery at Goliad had been avenged and the sacrifices of Travis, Bowie, Bonham and Crockett rewarded. A new republic had been born.

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Sun of Liberty Arose.

The completeness of the victory and the capture of the Mexican dictator, Gen. Antonio de Santa Anna, meant Texas freedom, a cause for which so many brave colonists had offered their lives.

No better summation of the battle of San Jacinto can be found than the words of Thomas J. Rusk, the Texas secretary of war, when he wrote: "The sun was sinking in the horizon when the battle commenced, but at the close of the conflict the sun of liberty rose in Texas, never, it is hoped, to be obscured by the clouds of despotism."

Far more was accomplished at San Jacinto than the mere winning of a battle and the creation of another state. Without San Jacinto there would have been no Texas, no New Mexico, no Arizona, no California, no Nevada, no Utah, nor portions of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma. San Jacinto opened another gateway for the westward sweep of the American people across the plains and mountains to the Pacific Coast.

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Assumed Her Place.

Having declared and achieved her sovereign independence, the new republic prepared to assume her place among the countries of the world and to maintain a government suited to the needs and capacities of her great territory and growing population. A constitution was soon in operation, customs were being collected, and immigration increased. Its currency was a success when Houston, beating down the opposition of the congress of the United States and his own secretary of the treasury, made the money receivable for customs on par with gold. This created confidence and the republic's money rose to par for all purposes. Mails were delivered, courts were respected and commerce developed—the republic was a going concern.

Through the century following the establishment of the republic and its joining the Union, Texas has made large contributions to our national life.

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First In Exports.

In 1932 she took from New York first place in the value of exports produced within the borders of a single state. She raises more than a fourth of the nation's cotton, produces more than a third of its oil, and almost all its sulphur. No other state can boast of so varied and bountiful a list of life's requirements, including livestock and almost all farm commodities.

Texas was one of the first states to rebel against exploitation by the railroads. The Texas Railroad Commission was established April 1891, and was first suggested by Governor Richard Coke in 1876. The Interstate Commerce Commission, which now has supervision over all railroads of the country, was created about the time of the Texas commission. The Texas commission was first presided over by that grand old Texas statesman, John H. Reagan, who served in the cabinet of Jefferson Davis, and later in the United States Senate, representing Texas. So great a patriot was he, that he resigned from the United States Senate in 1891 at considerable personal sacrifice, to accept chairmanship of the Texas Railroad Commission.

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Democratic-Minded.

Texas yields to no other state or section in its belief in a democracy of opportunity, as well as democracy in government. The Texas anti-trust laws were preceded by only one other such law in the entire nation.

The United States has become a nation of vast resources, and the world's foremost example of democratic government. Texas and Texans have played an important part in its development, and San Jacinto had its bearing. There would be no United States, as we know it today, had it not been for San Jacinto.

This majestic shaft, surmounted by the Lone Star of Texas, will ever be a reminder of the occasion we wish to commemorate and a tribute to the men we wish to honor. It will inspire in all who come this way a desire for the freedom which it symbolizes.

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Call for Rededication.

It is erected as a part of our Centennial with funds appropriated by the State of Texas and the United States government. The contribution by our own state was through an act of the legislature approved by Governor Allred. A much greater contribution was by the federal government through generous discretionary grants by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and the allocation of funds by the Texas Centennial Commission headed by our own John Nance Garner, vice president. This commission included Cordell Hull, secretary of state, Henry Wallace, secretary of agriculture, and Daniel C. Roper, secretary of commerce, and was created by the Act of Congress which appropriated funds for participation by the United States government in the Texas Centennial celebration.

I should like, on behalf of the people of Texas, to express our deep appreciation to President Roosevelt and this commission and to the Texas legislature for making possible the erection of this monument.

It is with a sense of deep reverence and humble veneration that I level this cornerstone in this lasting monument to the heroes of the Battle of San Jacinto and of the Texas revolution, and to the mighty deeds they wrought.

Let us look to God in Heaven, and rededicate ourselves to the principles for which they fought so nobly and so well.

Relic From San Jacinto Battlefield May Prove Valuable to Collectors

A relic which may prove of great interest to collectors of Texiana was found recently by D. H. Craig of 2318½ Austin.

It was buried three feet deep in the dirt of the San Jacinto battle field. The relic resembles a watch, a little larger than a quarter.

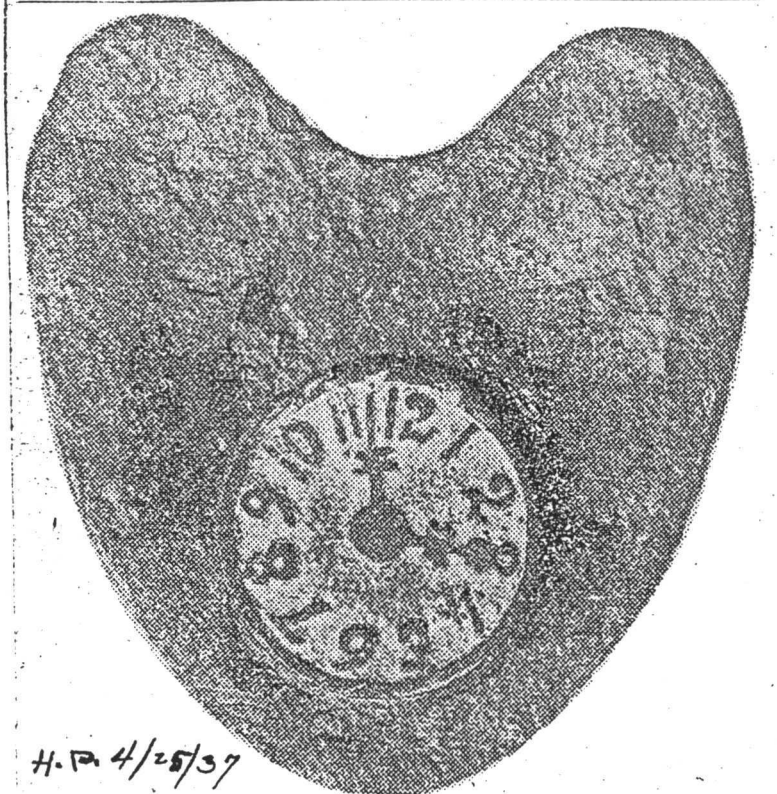
The watch is mounted on metal in the shape of a shield, which probably was covered with black enamel but now is eaten away by rust. The face of the watch is white and the numerals appear to have been engraved with gold and silver composition. The tiny hands point to three minutes of three, the hour when the battle of San Jacinto was fought. Smeared between the figures of the watch and the hands are small marks, suggesting an etched wreath as ornamentation.

The shield was unearthed close to the tree under which General Sam Houston awaited Santa Ana. It is about 3 inches long and two and a half inches wide.

Mr. Craig has sent the shield to the historical researceh department of the University of Texas to determine whether such a medal was cast to commemorate the battle of San Jacinto or if it could have been an especially designed emblem of valor.

So far as can be learned there is not a duplicate of the medal in any private collection.

SAN JACINTO RELIC



Buried three feet in the scattered earth near the tree where General Sam Houston awaited Santa Anna, D. H. Craig found this curious relic. The watch is the size of a quarter and mounted on metal. The hands point to three minutes to three, the hour at which the battle of San Jacinto was fought.

Spanish Moss Is Shorn From Trees That Saw Defeat of Santa Anna

H.P 7/11/37

By MELBA NEWTON GEORGE.

Like old men thrown suddenly into a new order of things, the grizzled trees of San Jacinto battle ground are being doctored and beautified in anticipation of a new order when they will be compelled to live up to the grandeur of the million dollar memorial.

Their long moss beards must go.

Decayed and mutilated limbs must be removed.

Those standing in the way of roads necessary to the vast plan of landscaping of the battle ground are being eased to other spots.

Mrs. C. B. Whitehead, landscape architect in charge of beautifying the grounds, and tree surgeons assisting her, have assumed a "this is going to hurt us more than you" attitude. And they know what the old, battle-wise trees can not guess. This program of rejuvenation is going to add from 100 to 300 years to their life span.

Sentimentalists who link the long gray beards of moss with the traditions of the field of Texas' independence are loath to see the tree barbers with their clippers.

Will Grow Again.

But what Mrs. Whitehead and the tree doctors know is that the moss will grow again, and that the old trees will have their long gray beards back in all their waving glory within three years after they have been removed.

"The moss has to be removed from the live oaks, the elms and other trees of the battle ground." Mrs. Whitehead said. "The trees need a breathing chance. In only a few years, these fine old native trees would have to be replaced by nursery sprouts, were nothing done for them. Many of these were grown long before the battle of San Jacinto. Their loss would be irreparable."

Spanish moss, such as the romantic gray tree beard is called, is actually neither Spanish nor moss, Mrs. Whitehead said.

It belongs to the botanical order of bormeliales, of which the orchid is also a member.

The beautification of the trees is, of course, the purpose of the removal of the moss. But it is not because the moss, itself, is ugly, said the landscape expert. "Aesthetically, it has everything—grace, charm and the very personality of the South. Nevertheless, its removal is imperative to restore the health and beauty to the trees. They are suffering from diseases indirectly due to the heavy growth of moss and can be preserved for generations by its removal."

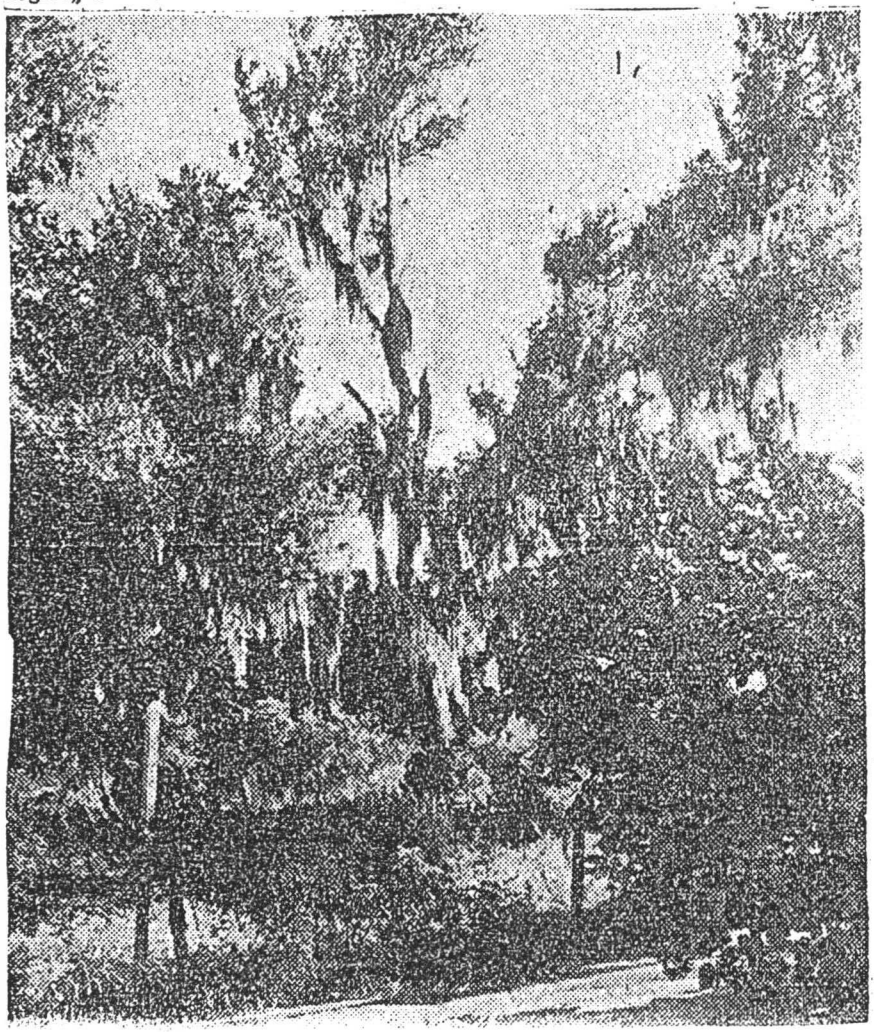
Grows Quickly.

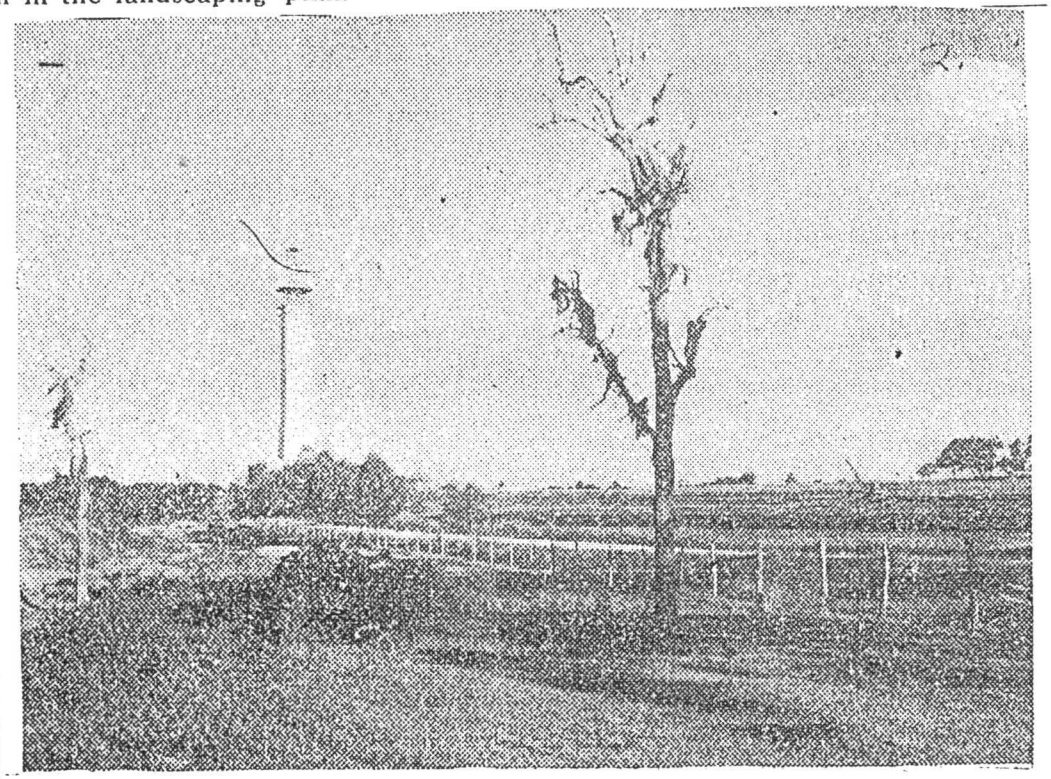
Moss tends to grow quickly and often forces the branches to bear an undue weight, Mrs. Whitehead said. "During a high wind or storm they may snap off and the wound left may become infected by the worms and insects which eat into the tree and destroy it. The entire tree may be uprooted completely because of heavy moss on the upper branches. Moreover, the moss prevents sunlight from reaching the tree, and sunlight is even more essential to plants than to animals. Without it, they can not carry on photo-synthesis, that is, manufacture their food materials. Thus, in the absence of sunlight, they literally starve to death. The moss holds water for long periods of time, and for this reason affords an ideal dwelling place for numerous pests which attack the tree and destroy it."

The work of removing the moss from dense tree areas on the 360-acre battle ground site was begun last July and is still in progress. Men with long, hook-end canes pull the moss from the trees. Often they climb high in the trees and work for long hours. It is almost impossible to remove all of the moss, which clings stubbornly to its tree home.

Miraculous is the manner in which trees as large as 14 inches in diameter are moved from spots where they interfere with new roads to other parts of the battle ground. Twenty men, a huge crane and big cables are required to remove one tree. First, a trench is dug from the tree to the spot intended for its new home. It is dragged by cables slowly and carefully to the new spot. Many of these trees have been so removed and are doing nicely in their new settings.

Trees at San Jacinto battle ground, not already denuded by borers and parasitic growth, are being revitalized. Upper left, giant liveoaks which the growths of moss were slowly strangling before the rehabilitation program was begun. Upper right, an oak in the last stages of decay. Lower left, one of the hundreds of trees from which the moss has been taken and parasitic and insect growths destroyed. Lower right, one of the 76 trees which have been moved without harm in the landscaping plan.





Hot Sun Pushes Shaft At San Jacinto Away From It, Inspection Visit Reveals

H.C. 9/9/37

Every day that the sun shines long enough it pushes the San Jacinto Memorial away from it, first to the west and then toward the east.

That sounds impossible, doesn't it? But the sun's heat expands the huge stones on the side that it is shining from, causing the largest stone monument in the world to lean away from it.

This physical phenomenon was one of several that newsmen learned Wednesday while inspecting the shaft with Alfred C. Finn, the architect who designed the monument, and Chamber of Commerce officials.

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Swayed by Hard Winds.

Mr. Finn explained others, for instance:

The wind sways the giant shaft about two inches when it's blowing hard, but it could be swayed "several feet without damage."

If a giant could grasp the shaft at the top, and tear it from the earth, it would not crumble, but would hold together in one great piece. That's an idea of how strong it is.

There are 850 steps from the basement of the shaft to the observation tower, and young Alfred Finn, the supervising architect, was the first to walk up. It took him 15 minutes to go up and 10 to go down.

A watchman on duty last week was offered $5 by a New Yorker, who wanted to climb the stairs, but he had to turn him down, because no visitors are allowed inside when work has halted.

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Star Planned on Top.

An exact size model of the stone star that will grace the top of the shaft, or at least the star that Mr. Finn thinks will be used, is sitting on the ground below the memorial.

When the stones have been laid and the concrete poured all the way to the top, the wooden model will be covered with canvas and hauled to the top and put in place. Then Mr. Finn and his associates will inspect the model from all sides to see how it looks.

They have been looking already at a miniature model of the star placed on top of a water tank, but decided to hoist up the huge wooden model to be sure that it will look like a star from all angles.

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Phone System Used.

When you look down from the observation tower to the base of the monument, the shaft looks like it is bigger at the top than at the bottom. Young Mr. Finn explained that to baffled newsmen, and perspective has something to do with it.

The men laying the stones talk by telephone to the man driving the winch that is raising and lowering them. The winch driver is at the bottom and the men laying the stones are at the top, but each huge stone is handled as carefully as if it were made of glass. Incidentally, those yellow stones weigh 112 pounds per cubic foot.

Total weight of the monument, which will be about 570 feet high, is 70,300,000 pounds.

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Can See Galveston.

From the observation tower, one can easily see on a clear day Houston, Galveston, Texas City, the Tri-Cities and lesser hamlets.

Most remarkable mechanical development being used on the monument is the movable scaffold, which is wound up with winches as the stones move skyward. It is suspended on a steel structure within, and the men literally lift themselves, their tools and the huge stones by winding the winches.

This development made it possible to build only one big scaffold for the shaft proper. Smaller scaffolds are suspended from it, however.

The memorial should be open to the public by April 15, but the sculpture on the sides will probably take a year to finish.

Texas' Shortest History to Be Most Read

First of Eight Panels in 600-Word Account Written For San Jacinto Shaft Is Turned Over to Cutters

Ha Post 12/8/37

A score of Texas historians were called into consultation in the writing of a history of Texas, the shortest one generally known but which probably will be read by more people than any other Texas history ever written.

Some of the foremost historical authorities in the state collaborated with Lou W. Kemp, chairman of the historical advisory board of the Texas Centennial commission, in the writing of the 600-word story of the Texas revolution featuring the battle of San Jacinto, which is just "going to press."

It is the series of eight 13-line panel inscriptions to be carved in everlasting stone for the perusal of innumerable generations to come, on the sides of the $1,200,000 San Jacinto memorial shaft now under construction on the battlefield where Texas liberty was won.

Mr. Kemp had one of the panels ready Tuesday to turn over to Architect A. C. Finn, who will transmit it to the Bellows Construction company for cutting. It is the one recounting the battle of San Jacinto itself, in these words:

"With the battle cry, 'Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!' the Texans charged. The enemy, taken by surprise, rallied for a few minutes, then fled in disorder. The Texans asked no quarter and gave none. The slaughter was appalling, victory complete, and Texas free! On the following day Santa Anna, self-styled 'Napoleon of the West,' received from a generous foe the mercy he had denied Travis at the Alamo and Fannin at Goliad."

13 Lines Each.

This and each of the seven other panel inscriptions is fitted into 13 lines, each line having from 32 to 35 letters and spaces. Mr. Kemp, a historian of note, worked for days composing and fitting into this form the outline history. He sent mimeographed copies to a score of friends interested in Texas history, requesting criticisms, and then spent much more time revising them to meet the resultant flood of suggestions.

"My aim," he said, "has been to relate, briefly and simply, the main events leading up to the battle, and the battle itself and its consequences, so that any person able to read English, by following the eight inscriptions around the memorial, can understand in a few minutes how the whole trouble between Texas and Mexico developed and resulted.

"In this endeavor I have received valuable suggestions from some of Texas' leading students of history, and I have incorporated in the inscriptions something from each one who has made suggestions."

A second panel is tentatively finished, but is being held up for possible minor changes. It traces the preliminaries of the Texas revolution as follows:

"The first open break between Mexico and her Texas colonists occurred at Anahuac in June, 1832, when the colonists forced the Mexican authorities to release Patrick C. Jack, William Barrett Travis and others from unjust imprisonment. The battle of Velasco, June 26, and the battle of Nacogdoches, Aug. 2, followed; in both the Texans were victorious. While hostilities ceased for a time the ill feeling existing between Texan and Mexican was not allayed."

Santa Anna Blamed.

The first inscription will outline the underlying causes of the revolution, pointing out that the blame should not be placed upon the Mexican people, but squarely upon the shoulders of the dictators, principally Santa Anna.

Subsequent panels will tell of the other battles and skirmishes of the revolution proper, at Gonzales, Goliad and San Antonio, of the formation of Sam Houston's forces at San Jacinto, of the states from which the revolutionary heroes hailed and the significance of the victory.

Contributions to the inscriptions were made by Clarence Wharton, Houston historian; Herbert Davenport, Brownsville lawyer and authority on the Fannin campaign; Samuel E. Asbury, A. & M. college professor and history research specialist; Miss Virginia Leddy, archivist, Dallas Historical society; Miss Harriet Smither, archivist, Texas State library, Austin; Miss Winnie Allen, archivist, University of Texas, Austin; Mrs. Hally Bryan Perry, a founder of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Houston; Claude Teer, chairman state board of control, Austin; Ed Kilman, member Texas State Historical board, Houston; Mrs. R. S. Noble, historian, San Augustine, and J. V. Vandenberge, member of the Texas Centennial commission, Victoria.

First Plan Changed.

Others who approved Mr. Kemp's inscriptions without offering criticisms, or whose responses Mr. Kemp had not yet received, were: Father Paul J. Foik and J. Frank Dobie, both of Austin and members of the Centennial historical advisory board; Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, Houston, president of the D. R. T.; Judge Moore, Richmond, president of the Sons of the Republic of Texas; Kenneth Krahl, Houston past president, S. R. T.; Mrs. Carrie Franklin Kemp, past president, D. R. T.; Dr. Frederick Eby, professor of English, University of Texas; Dr. E. C. Barker, professor of American history, Universty of Texas.

At first Mr. Kemp allotted one of the eight inscriptions to the nine men killed in the battle of San Jacinto, but decided to devote the space to other matters, in view of the fact that the Daughters of the Texas Republic plan to erect on the grounds a memorial to them with a $5000 fund started by Governor Frank Lubbock many years ago. In addition, a monument to those nine men, erected on the battlefield in 1861, is being worked over with corrections of errors.

The names of all Texans in the battle of San Jacinto, and about 200 who were left at the army camp at Harrisburg, already have been cast in bronze on two huge plaques to be placed inside the San Jacinto memorial. Mr. Kemp has been working on a study of the San Jacinto heroes for eight years, increasing the number of known participants by about 100 over the roster hastily given in General Houston's report of the battle; the final number being 960. He has had one book published on the subject and has a supplement nearly ready for the press.

Mr. Kemp expects to complete the other San Jacinto inscriptions in a few days.

Tall and Impressive Memorial Shaft At San Jacinto Is Nearing Completion

Long Shadow of Spire Reaches Across Channel Late in Afternoons.

12-12-37

By CHESTER ROGERS

Late in the afternoons of winter days when the sun dips under the western horizon, the tall and impressive spire of the San Jacinto Memorial now rapidly nearing completion, casts a long shadow reaching eastward across the Ship Channel.

The long shadow touches Lynchburg, Harris County's earliest trading post.

Traders, merchants, pirates, soldiers of fortune, fleeing pioneers, conquering patriots, men, women, and children of all creeds and races played roles in the glamorous pages of Lynchburg's past which today has faded to an occasional paragraph in the hesitant memories of old residents.

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Known as Trading Post.

Long before the battle of San Jacinto, which gave Texas its freedom, Lynchburg was known to Central and East Texas traders as an important commercial post. One of the most important roads in the area at that time led directly to the wharves at Lynchburg where scores of boats and barges laden with raw materials for a new republic had been brought from other ports.

Pioneer settlers of the state used the Lynchburg crossing frequently in their travels up and down the coast. It derived its name from Nathaniel Lynch, an early settler who built his home there. He gave every encouragement to Texans when they prepared for the battle at San Jacinto. He tried to turn back fleeing settlers who used his crossing ot escape from the battle-torn areas.

Cannon balls fired at the battle of San Jacinto sailed dangerously near the empty homes of settlers around Lynchburg. The few hardy residents who remained heard the firing of the guns, the clank of steel sabres, cries of the injured, shouts of the victors, and pleas of the vanquished.

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Residents Return.

When the smoke of battle cleared, Lynchburg's residents returned, cleaned up the carnage and went on about their business of taking care of heavy shipping on the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou which was then enjoying its earliest taste of the invigorating commercial activity.

An even dozen barge and boat repair dry docks flourished in the area, taking care of repairs and building new vessels to supply the heavy boat freight traffic on the stream. A great part of the interior of the county relied on botts, for that was in the days long before highways and railroads.

Hundreds of early settlers moved household goods and farm implements, as well as annual supplies, into Lynchburg on board freight barges, and hauled them back into the interior with ox, mule and horse teams.

Dance halls, bars, cafes, hotels, and saloons blazed with all of the "torch" songs popular in pioneer days as laborers and traders thronged the trading center. Its population at that time approached 2000, a pretty fair sized community.

But time and tide combined to divest the community of its former glories.

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Houston Developed.

Time brought development of the robust city of Houston and dredging of the Houston Ship Channel which carried increasing commerce to the young city started right after the battle of San Jacinto. Flood and storm tides made residents of the flat areas move to higher land and to other communities where industrial and agricultural empoyment offered brighter opportunities.

Today Lynchburg could lay claim to being about the smallest community in Harris County. A combination store and filling station, and a cafe on one side of the Ship Channel, a cake and candy wagon on the other side, is just about all there is to Lynchburg unless you count the county operated toll free ferry which plys back and forth from one side of the Channel to the other for 19 hours every day.

Back a little way on the east side of the channel there's the hill of land which is occupied principally by the Gulf pumping station and tank farm. The Gulf workers live in a half dozen houses, and there may be another half dozen houses on the other side of the hill. On the opposite side of the bayou there are a few portable camps, and a few homes occupied by summer residents.

There's a concrete highway leading to the ferry crossing on the west side, and a hard-surfaced pavement leading to the ferry crossing on the east side. There is pretty fair traffic on the highway and ferry but most of it flies past Lynchburg.

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Treasure Legend.

Legend, too, paints bright portraits of the past for Lynchburg, and now and then there are enthusiastic followers of the fantasy of the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow who seek legendary buried gold in the vicinity of the community.

Santa Anna, the Mexican army leader, and Jean Lafitte, whose bright, bold deeds have been linked with almost every foot of ground on the Texas and Louisiana coasts, are both credited with depositing fortunes in the yellow and now outlawed metal near Lynchburg.

Originating not far from the base of the San Jacinto Memorial monument is a small stream of water leading to the nearby Ship Channel which bears the name of Santa Anna's creek. The Mexican leader, according to legend, was unable to take along his gold supply in his wild flight from the victorious Texas forces, and buried it in the middle of the creek which now bears his name. The gold is said to have been too heavy to carry along, so each time the legend is retold it gains weight, and today it appears he left a large supply in the creek.

An equally fantastic tale tells the story of La Fitte's legendary treasure, said to be buried at the head of Old River, within a stone's throw of the Market Street Road bridge across the San Jacinto River.

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La Fitte Legend.

La Fitte and his band, aboard three ships, ran afoul of federal gunboats in Galveston Bay and fled up the San Jacinto River. They ran into the cove-like protection offered by Old River, hoping their pursuers would continue up San Jacinto River or Buffalo Bayou.

But the federal forces discovered the ruse, and followed the pirates into Old River, which has no exit. The pirates fled from two boats, setting them on fire, boarding the final craft, which was also abandoned at the dead end of the inlet.

Forced to flee into the wooded area, they would have been handicapped with their gold hoard, and quite naturally buried it, hoping to return later and recover it. But, the legend relates, they hid it so well they couldn't find it when they came back and the treasure lies there yet—waiting for the lucky searcher who digs deep enough to uncover it.

La Fitte's treasure on Old River, Santa Anna's gold in the creek that bears his name, both are within rifle shot of Lynchburg.

Fancy and fact have both painted glowing pictures in the past that is Lynchburg's yet today. Its sole and doubtful claim to fame is that it is in the late afternoon shadow of the San Jacinto Memorial, a monument to the Texas patriots who fought for and won Texas independence.

But Lynchburg, long tired from its fight to keep aboard the rising tide of industrial activity in this section, has no monument—only memories, and a shadow.

BATTLEGROUND SEEN FROM MEMORIAL SHAFT

This is not an aerial view of San Jacinto Battleground. It is a shot taken by a Chronicle photographer from the top of the monument itself. The obvious height from which the picture is taken conveys an idea of the progress which is being made on the memorial to Texas' heroes. The landscaping project, which is beginning to take form below the monument, is the gigantic reflecting pool for the monument. The pool, when completed, will extend from the foot of the shaft almost to the gates of the battleground.

BATTLEGROUND MEMORIAL AT SAN JACINTO IS 235 FEET ABOVE FOUNDATION

CHR- - - -37

Work on the San Jacinto Battleground Memorial is progressing, a visit to the monument Thursday disclosed. The monument itself is little less than half finished and the landscaping project being undertaken by the WPA in connection with the monument is beginning to take shape.

C. A. Bullen, construction superintendent on the monument, said that stone had been laid 235 feet above the floor of the memorial and that Wednesday the crew had made a record by setting eight feet of stone in comparison with the regular day's quota of six feet.

From the top of the monument a striking panoramic view of the surrounding country takes in the Ship Channel, the various bays and inlets of the San Jacinto River and in the far distance the smoke and tall buildings of Houston may be seen. Southward, the outlines of Texas City are discernible, while immediately below the battleground itself appears to be little larger than a map. The trees dotting the plain look a good deal like artists' representations on topographical maps and the gangs of men at work on the landscaping project seem tiny and slow-moving.

The major portion of the landscaping project is the gigantic terraced pool which extends from the foot of the monument almost to the gates of the battleground.

The pool, when completed, will reflect the tallest memorial in the country, the monument to the heroism of the Texans who won their liberty on the field of San Jacinto.

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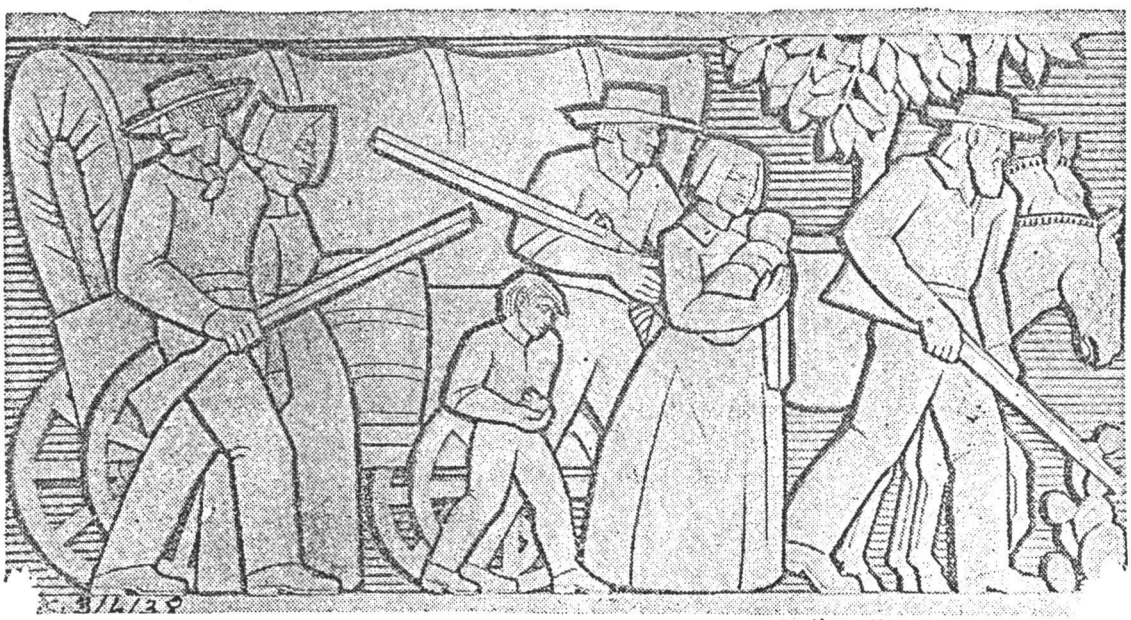
Visited by Officials.

An inspection of the landscaping project was made Wednesday by two high-ranking WPA engineers, Carl Wilcox of New Orleans and R. H. Colglaiser of San Antonio. Wilcox is the regional engineer and Colglaiser the state engineer for WPA, and their inspection was a "quantitative analysis," or a survey to determine which projects can be completed with the WPA funds now set up.

A few changes have been made from time to time in the landscaping plan, such as the extension of the reflecting pool and in the placing of various trees and shrubs, but the progress which is being made is working a magnificent change in what used to be a bald and unlovely prairie.

The entire p[anel] section is shown at the lower right. The historical frieze, in addition to those mentioned above, will include the following sec[tions]: "Bowie and Fannin," "Travis' Letter From the Alamo," "Sa[m] Houston and Deaf Smith," San Jacinto Advance," "Lamar's Sch[ool] System," and "Building of Industries." The monument is being constructed with federal PWA and state aid. Four bronze doors opening into the monument were received during the week. The doors, each weighing 3000 pounds depict Texas under six flags.



Sections B and C are entitled, "Coming of the Pioneer." Life-sized models of the first three sections have been made and photographed. The coming of the pioneers is portrayed in three sketches pictured here. The one at the upper left is a closeup of the model of a pioneer Texas woman and man.

H.C. 3/6/38

Work of carving the historical frieze for San Jacinto Memorial will begin Monday, Architect A. C. Finn announced Thursday. William M. McVey is the sculptor employed to carve in the stone of the monument this sketch of Texas history from the coming of the Anglo-Saxons to the present time. The frieze will be 15½ feet in height and extend around the base of the shaft in a continuous band 178 feet long. Mr. Finn estimated the project will be completed in early fall. The frieze will be in sections. Sketch A will picture the widow of Moses Austin imploring Stephen Austin to take up the petition given his father and go to Texas.

SAN JACINTO HISTORY BODY IS APPOINTED

George A. Hill, Jr., to Head Group Selected to Establish Museum at Monument

H.C. 4/24/38

Creation of a San Jacinto Museum of History Association, with George A. Hill, Jr., prominent oilman, as chairman of the board of trustees, to establish and supervise a museum of history in the San Jacinto Memorial Monument Building at the battleground was announced Friday by J. Perry Moore, chairman of the San Jacinto State Park Commission.

Other trustees named are L. W. Kemp, W. B. Bates, Alfred C. Finn and Mrs. Madge Hearne.

They were named in a resolution by the San Jacinto State Park Commission, composed of Moore, Miss Mary G. Tod and W. E. Kendall, with the concurrence of the state board of control.

The association will formulate a plan for the museum and supervise it after its creation.

"We hope to have a historical museum that will be second to none in the United States," Mr. Moore said.

Purposes of the museum will be to revisualize the history of Texas, especially the San Jacinto region. It will institute and encourage historical inquiry, collect and preserve historical information, and create a chronological story of the San Jacinto region, illustrated by exhibits.

The San Jacinto State Park Commission has jurisdiction and control, subject to the state board of control, over the San Jacinto Battleground Park.

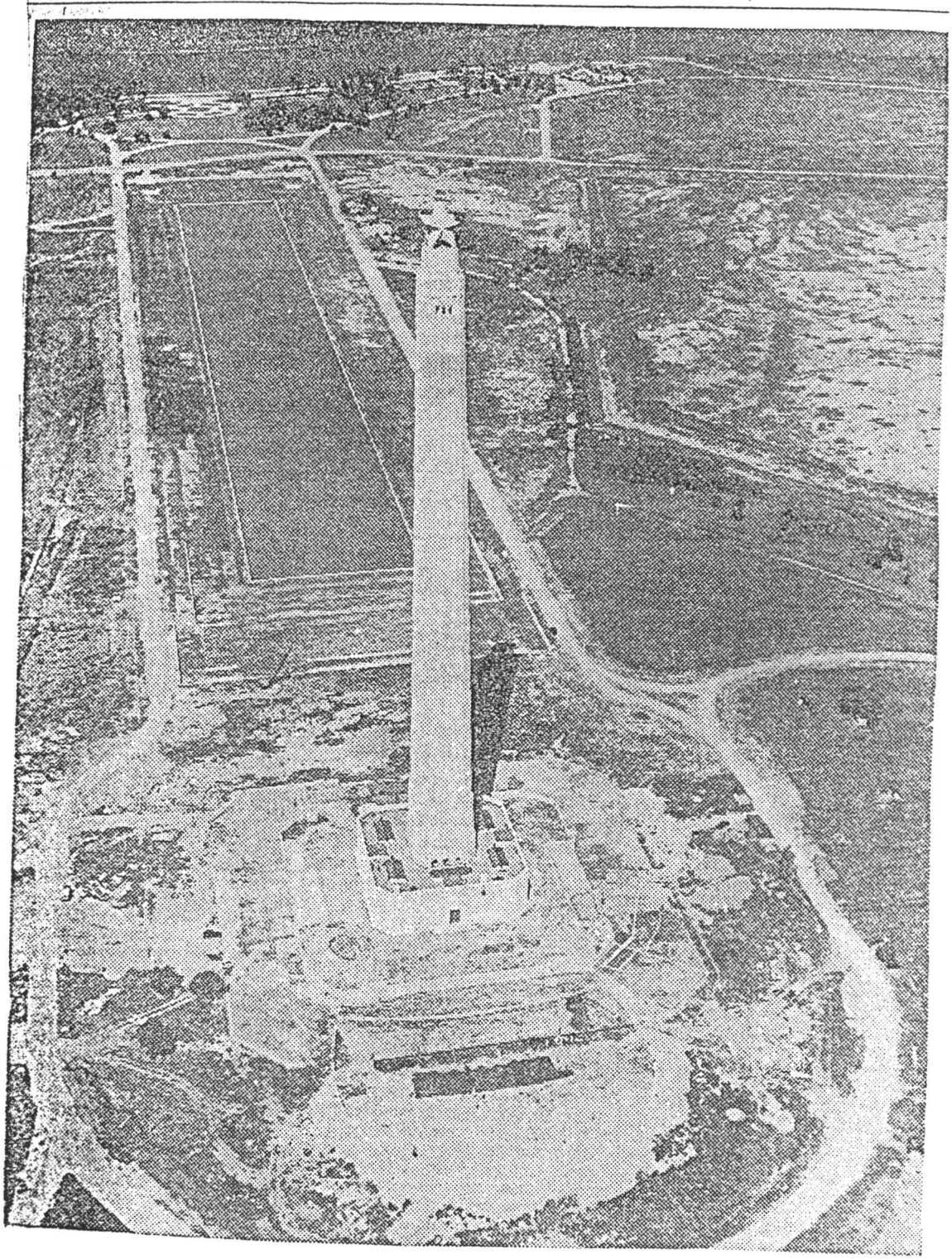
Mr. Moore also made public a resolution, passed by the Sons of the Republic of Texas and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, both the state bodies and the local chapters, in which appreciation was expressed for the work done by H. O. Clarke in assisting in the acquisition of additional land for the San Jacinto State Park. The park has been increased from 357 to 463 acres.

Shaft Dedicated To Heroes

H. Post - 12/1/38

65- 3444

Monument to Texas Heroes



The stately, glistening shaft pictured on this page is a perpetual reminder of the stout-heartedness of the people of Texas in times of stress.

Towering 570 feet—15 feet higher than the Washington monument—it marks the spot where, more than 00 years ago, some 800 ragged, poorly fed patriots followed Sam Houston in battle against a physically superior Mexican force under anta Anna.

This is the San Jacinto memorial, uilt with the aid of the nickles nd pennies of Texas school chilren, to consecrate the ground upon hich the Lone Star state won her ndependence from Mexico.

The memorial is reinforced conrete faced with variegated golden uff Texas limestone quarried near ustin, the state capital. Polished mestone is used for the interior, ough sawn rock for the exterior. he limestone is of shell formaon and takes a high polish.

5-FOOT STAR

The star on its apex is 35 feet igh and as many feet in breadth, nd weighs 220 tons.

The foundation was built to last. n it are 120 car loads of gravel, 90 ar loads of sand, 25 car loads of ement and 11 car loads of steel. It 125 feet square and 15 feet thick.

The base has two broad approach rraces. One rises six feet and has spread of 364 feet in each direcon. The other rises nine feet and as a spread of 244 feet.

The base building is 124 feet quare and 36 feet high. The enrance to this is through a hall of onor 44 by 45 feet, in which niches re provided for the statues of pioeer men and women.

EROES' DEEDS

To the left of this hall of honor ill be a museum of historical elics—a room 36 by 103 feet. The xhibits will offer wide insight into he settlement of the state as well s evidence of the deeds of such en as Sam Houston, Stephen F. ustin, Ben Milam, Davey Crockett nd many other heroes of Texas.

At the right of the hall of honor s a meeting hall and art gallery of he same size as the museum hall. ere will hang portraits of the arly settlers of note and depictions f scenes in the state's history.

At the rear of the base building is n amphitheater seating more than 000. On the opposite side is a goon wherein the shaft will be irrored from base to tip.

Through the hall of honor a large ntrance lobby leads to an elevator hich will whisk visitors up through he shaft to the observation tower.

Plans Made Here For Opening of 'Greatest Museum'

12-23-36

George A. Hill Jr. Donates Rare Pieces; Meeting Is Called

Read "Needed: A Museum," an Editorial on Page 8

"The greatest museum in the United States" was envisioned for Houston today as plans went forward for opening the San Jacinto Museum of History next April 21.

Rare documents and other historical objects collected for the past 25 years by George A. Hill Jr., trustees, were donated to the museum by Mr. Hill yesterday.

At the same time, a meeting of civic leaders to arrange immediate financing of the opening was called for 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, in a letter from Wright Morrow, Chamber of Commerce president.

Means of raising funds for exhibition cases and the employment of a director will be discussed at the meeting, to be held at the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Morrow wrote.

Funds Needed in January

Mr. Hill pointed out that funds must be in hand by the latter part of January so that cases and equipment may be ordered. Another trustee, Alfred C. Finn, is consulting with the Remington-Rand Co. on the designs.

Mr. Hill's valuable collection was received enthusiastically by other members of the board of trustees. They were quick to point out that other similar private collections probably would be donated and that Houstonians have the greatest store of historical objects in the state.

"We want the San Jacinto Museum to be the greatest in the United States on the day it opens in the memorial monument on the battlegrounds," L. W. Kemp, vice chairman of the museum and chairman of the historical board of the Texas Centennial Commission, said. "We don't want to have to build it up over a period of years. Plenty of material is already available if we can only secure enough money to have it ready for exhibition by April 21."

Collection Most Extensive

Mr. Kemp described the Hill collection as one of the most extensive private assemblage of historical objects in the country. It includes the original commissions of Santa Anna, an oil portrait of Sam Houston, coins, medallions, military decorations, several hundred books and newspapers, maps, old prints, 100 royal decrees signed by the Spanish King, decrees of the Council of the Indies, ecclesiastical orders, military plans, inventories of missions, censuses of pueblos, viceregal decrees, and hundreds of other documents and objects.

The museum's opening is to be held in conjunction with the formal dedication of the San Jacinto monument and a program which will be the most colorful and impressive in the city's history has been planned, Mr. Hill said.

Many to Be Invited

Heads of governments which have held sovereignty over Texas, diplomats, noted historians and scholars and museum directors throughout the world are to be invited here for the two or three-day ceremony, Mr. Hill said.

Cataloguing and classification of historical material for the museum is to be carried out by the Historical Research Survey of WPA, in space donated by the Houston Public Library, Mr. Hill said. Much material is already available. Periods in Texas history to be covered are: Spanish and French discovery, Spanish and French colonization, Mexico's struggle for independence, Texas' colonization after Mexican independence, Texas' struggle for independence, the republic of Texas, and Texas' statehood until the Civil War.

Support Needed

Employment of a curator or director within the near future to help arrange the exhibits before the museum's opening in April is urgent, Mr. Hill said.

"The enthusiastic support and the strong, material support of our entire citizenship are not only required," Mr. Hill added, "but the best thought and energy of those possessing special qualifications, in our city and in our state, can, and should be marshaled, to the end that the inauguration of the San Jacinto Museum of History shall truly represent the dignity and the high and enduring purpose of this institution."

In addition to Mr. Hill, Mr. Kemp and Mr. Finn, other trustees are Col. William B. Bates, attorney and past president of the Sons of the Republic, and Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, granddaughter of Sam Houston.

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Needed: A Museum

The San Jacinto Museum of History Association, of which George A. Hill Jr. is president, has announced ambitious plans for the creation of a first-class museum to portray the chronological story of Texas' history in the museum building at the San Jacinto Monument.

The association has devoted much time to research as a foundation for its recommendations to the people of Texas and especially to the citizens of Houston. These plans call for the purchase and installation of proper equipment for the museum, the gathering and cataloguing of historical material, the appointment of a museum director and a curator of highest degree of competence, and for impressive ceremonies opening the museum April 21, 1939.

With the aid and co-operation of the State Department at Washington, the association plans to extend formal invitations to the heads of the French, Spanish, Mexican and Latin American governments to attend the opening ceremonies, either in person or by officially designated representatives. Governing officers and directors of the principal museums of the world would be invited, as would eminent historians and officers of the world's leading historical associations.

Distinguished scholars and historians would make addresses during the two or three-day ceremonies. In many respects the opening would be similar to that of Rice Institute in 1912, when ranking diplomats and scholars came from all over the face of the globe to make the occasion one of the most impressive of its kind connected with the formal opening of a university.

The work of gathering and preparing the material for the museum has been started by the WPA Historical Records Survey under the direction of the distinguished historian, Ike Moore. Most of this material is coming from private collectors and is invaluable in portraying the seven periods of Texas history to be visualized in the museum: Spanish and French discovery, 1492-1683; Spanish and French colonization, 1683-1810; Mexico's struggle for independence, 1810-1821; Texas' colonization after Mexican independence, 1821-1834; Texas' struggle for independence, 1834-1836; Republic of Texas, 1836-1845, and Texas' statehood until the Civil War, 1845-1861.

The association, an arm of the State Board of Control and of the San Jacinto Park Commission, has been without funds, either for its research or for the gathering of material and equipment in which to place it. Its need for adequate finances now has become imperative, if the plans as outlined by Mr. Hill are to be carried out.

Obviously it is impossible to await action of the Legislature in possibly supplying funds, since the contracts for equipment must be let immediately, the director and curator employed, arrangements made for the invitations to be sent around the globe, and other plans perfected for the opening ceremonies.

The San Jacinto Monument, the tallest in the world, already is attracting visitors from over the nation. Houston is gaining invaluable publicity as a result of the monument, in which the museum would be housed. The museum planned by the association would add to Houston's cultural prestige, would give the city world-wide publicity, would be an additional magnet to attract visitors from places afar, and would be a natural complement to the monument which honors the heroes of San Jacinto.

The association's plans should command the enthusiastic and material support of our entire citizenship. By all means, the association should be given the funds necessary to carry out its program. Those who can afford to help will, by giving liberally of their means, be performing a great service to the community.

Meet Is Called to Plan Historical Museum In San Jacinto Monument

200 Invited to Parley on Obtaining Exhibits; Dedication Ceremony Planned in April.

Ho. Chr - 12-23-38

Two hundred prominent citizens have been invited by President Wright Morrow of the Chamber of Commerce to meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the chamber assembly room and discuss plans for establishing the finest historical museum in the state—a museum in the San Jacinto Memorial now nearing completion on the battlefield.

The invitations were mailed to executives of large companies and to other citizens who manifested great interest in the Texas Centennial observances two years ago.

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Dedication Set.

President Morrow issued the invitations at the request of George A. Hill, Jr., chairman of the San Jacinto Museum of History and also head of the San Jacinto Museum of History Association.

It is planned to dedicate the museum San Jacinto Day, April 21, when the $1,100,000 memorial shaft on San Jacinto Battleground is dedicated.

Many exhibits of great historical interest have been promised to the museum which will be housed at the base of the monument on the battleground. Mr. Hill plans to donate a valuable collection of about 1000 historical documents, books, pictures, maps and other relics of early Texas, Mexico and Spain.

Trustees Assist.

Working with Mr. Hill in establishment of the historical museum are L. W. Kemp, Col. William B. Bates, Alfred C. Finn and Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, all trustees of the San Jacinto Memorial Building and of the San Jacinto Historical Museum. The museum was created by the San Jacinto State Park Commission with the approval of the state board of control. The five trustees were named to serve terms of five years.

The San Jacinto Museum of History Association was chartered November 7, with trustees of the museum as officials and directors. The officers are Mr. Hill, president; Mr. Kemp, vice president, and Colonel Bates, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Hearne and Mr. Finn, together with the officers, are the directors.

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Purposes of Group.

The purposes of the Museum of History Association as outlined are:

To revisualize the history of Texas and of the region; to institute and encourage historical inquiry; to collect and preserve the materials of history and to spread historical information; to have the chronological story of the region, as determined from authentic history, illustrated by means of exhibits worthy of admission to museums of the first rank; to extend and diffuse knowledge of our history, and to promote and perpetuate peace, friendship and sympathetic understanding between the people of Texas and the people of Mexico, Spain, France and the Latin-American republics.

Both the San Jacinto Museum of History and the association were created by the state board of control and the San Jacinto Park commission without funds. The expenses incurred by the Museum of History have been paid from funds provided from private sources and the association has received, as an initial subscription, $500 which is now on hand. No effort, up to now, has been made to raise funds for the association.

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Many Rare Items.

"There are now in the hands of private collectors historical materials of high museum merit in the form of books, manuscrupts and documents, prints, maps, portraits, daguerreotypes, coins, medals, military decorations, military insignia, letters, royal and viceregal decrees, pamphlets, bonds, currency and various other historical materials that are ready for delivery when such acceptance is approved by a competent accessions committee of the museum," Mr. Hill stated.

"A very considerable personnel will be required to receive, receipt for, describe, catalogue and index and segregate such material, and a safe place is required for the engagement in such work and the safe custody and preservation

of such materials pending the opening of the San Jacinto Museum of History.

"There is a very able and competent organization known as the historical records survey of the Works Progress Administration. The head of this organization (in Texas) is a distinguished historian, Ike Moore, with headquarters at San Antonio. After several conferences with Mr. Moore, he has agreed to inaugurate this work in Houston as one of the projects of the historical records survey, and he has selected, to be in charge of personnel, Miss Katherine Munn, a trained and experienced librarian (former city librarian at Beaumont)."

In order to know the number, design and cost of cases, cabinets and other equipment necessary for the inauguration of the museum, a report of the equipment needed is being made and will be studied by Mr. Finn, architect and a director of the association.

The association must consider the possibility of the legislature appropriating money for the purchase of the necessary equipment and also the possibility of the cost being paid by the association or from other sources, as the contract for the necessary cases must be let early in January and the completed equipment must be installed, and the museum exhibitions arranged prior to April 21, it was stated. The legislature meets in January.

Commenting on the museum, Mr. Hill said:

"It is believed that this museum of history can, and should, attain the highest degree of excellence, and that it has the richest historical background and the richest source of available material of any region in the United States. This is illustrated by our present concept of the seven periods of our history to be revisualized in this museum in order to portray the chronological story of our history: (1) Spanish and French discovery, 1492-1683; Spanish and French colonization, 1683-1810; Mexico's struggle for independence, 1810-1821; Texas' colonization after Mexican independence, 1821-1834; Texas' struggle for independence, 1834-1845; Texas' statehood until the civil war, 1845-1861.

"It is our belief that a museum of this scope, representing as it does our common history, in separate periods, with that of the people of Mexico, Spain, France and other Latin-American republics, and our diplomatic relations, during the period of the republic, with Great Britain and other sovereign states and countries, lends a significance to its beginning that should be signalized in the following manner:

"With the aid of our state department, we should extend formal invitations to the heads of the various governments mentioned to be present at appropriate ceremonies on April 20 and 21, in person or by officially designated representatives.

"Formal invitations should be sent to the governing officers and to the directors of the principal museums of history throughout the world to be represented at such ceremonies, in person or by designated representatives.

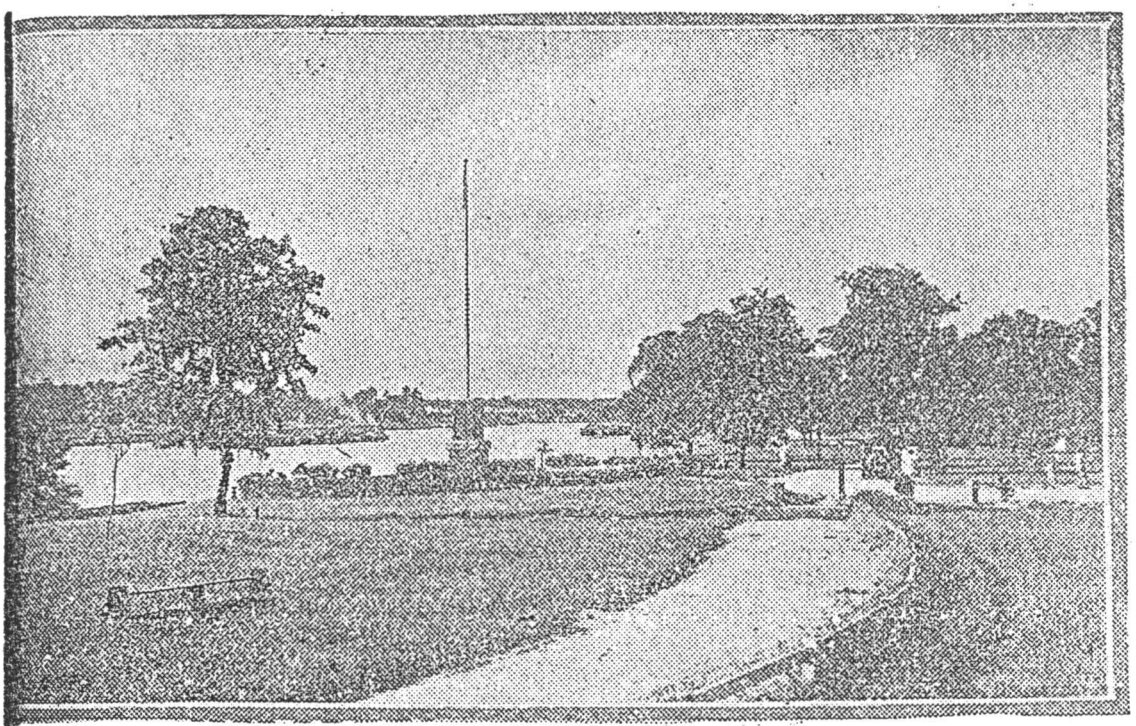
"Like invitations should be sent to the officers of the principal historical associations throughout the world, and to eminent historians.

"A program covering the two or three-day period, distinguished by the prepared addresses of historians and scholars of eminence, should be arranged for.

The dedicatory program, Mr. Hill said, should be modeled after the program at the time Rice Institute was formally opened to the public. He said the aid of the Rice Institute, University of Texas, Southern Methodist University, University of Houston, Houston school board and other institutions of learning should be enlisted in the undertaking.

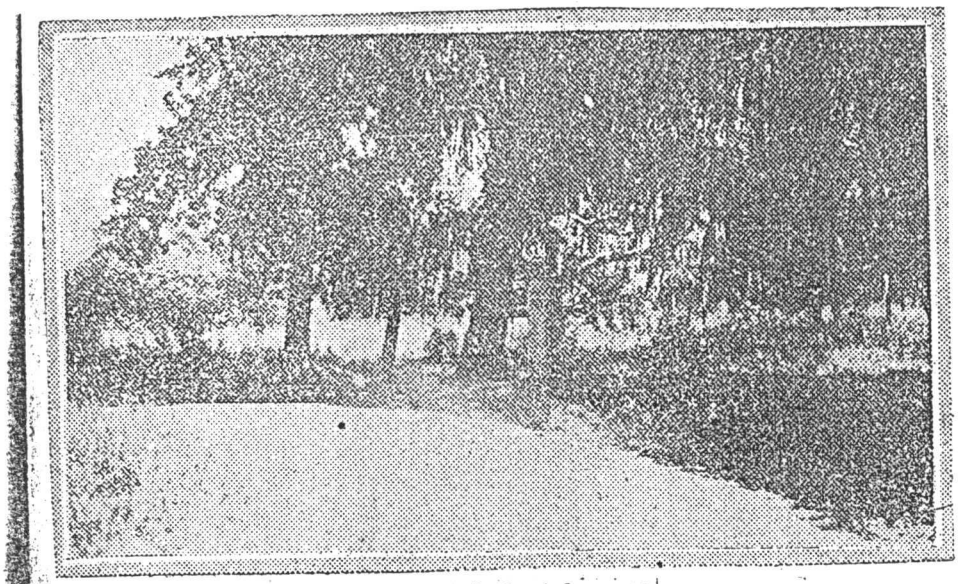
San Jacinto Museum Gets Portrait

A portrait of General Sam Houston was included among the collection of historical objects donated to the San Jacinto Museum yesterday by George A. Hill Jr., Houston oil man and chairman of the museum's board of trustees. Mr. Hill left, Col. W. B. Bates, center, and L. W. Kemp are shown examining the picture. Mr. Kemp and Col. Bates also are museum trustees.

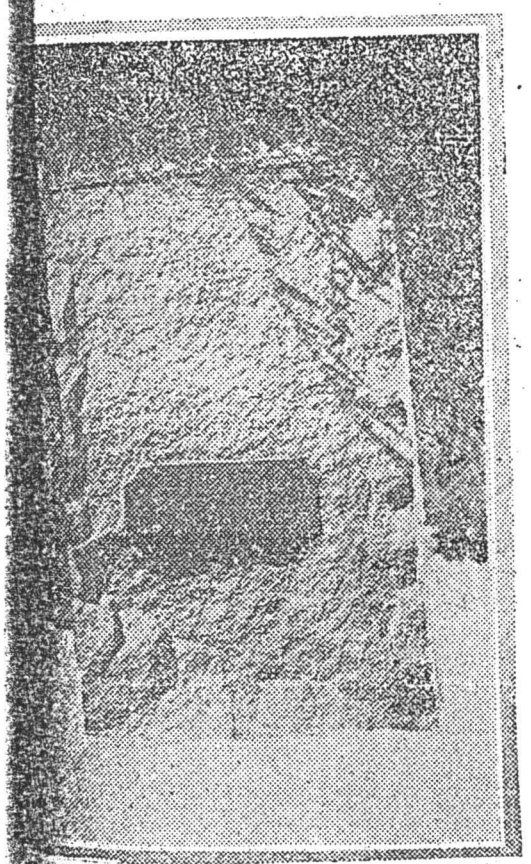


Where Texans camped. The battle of San Jacinto was not fought on the ground now improved as a park. The park is the spot from which the Texans advanced on the Mexicans entrenched to the southeast. Photo by Eidson.

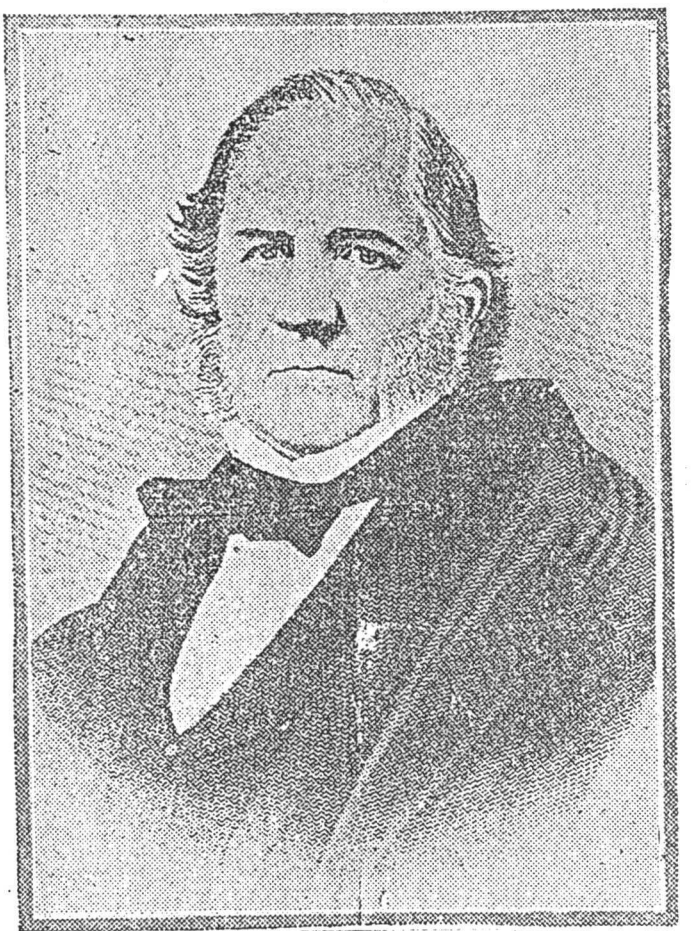
Site of General Houston's camp the day after the battle, where Santa Anna was brought a captive. Photo by Eidson.



A shell road passes the marker which shows the site of Santa Anna's breastworks.



This is a marker which shows the site of Mexican breastworks charged by Texas cav-



Sam Houston, from an old engraving. (Courtesy of Pioneer Publishing Company.)

JESSE JONES TO TAKE PART IN DEDICATION

Chosen to Represent New England Historical Genealogical Society at San Jacinto Battleground.

H.Chr. 4/12/39

Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, will represent the New England Historical Genealogical Society during the dedication of the San Jacinto Museum of History at San Jacinto Battleground April 20 and 21, it was announced Wednesday by George A. Hill, Jr., president of the San Jacinto Museum of History Association.

Two former Texas governors, O. B. Colquitt and R. S. Sterling, also will attend the ceremonies as official delegates.

More than 75 patriotic societies, historical organizations, religious bodies and others will be represented, Mr. Hill said. Delegates will be here from all parts of the nation, as is indicated by the lengthy list of those who have accepted.

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Meeting Called Today.

Col. R. C. Kuldell, chairman of the general arrangements committee, has called a meeting of all subcommittees for late this afternoon in the board room of the Chamber of Commerce. Activity reports will be made by all chairmen.

Many Houstonians whose forebears were closely identified with the colorful background of Texas have been officially invited to the ceremonies.

In this group are Mrs. Norma Louise Barnett, Blanche Higginbotham, Mrs. E. B. Snead, R. A. Tsanoff, Mrs. W. P. Hobby, J. R. Waters, Herbert Godwin, Col. Norman H. Beard, Mrs. G. J. Suhr, Miss Annie Hume, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Halliday, Mrs. H. D. Wade, Miss Julia Ideson, Frank Boyce, W. E. Kerkland, Dr. Charles L. King, Dr. J. A. Lynch, Col. M. L. Crimmins, H. B. Weiser, W. C. Montgomery, Mrs. Wayne Buchanan, Bishop A. Frank Smith, James Chillman, Jr., George F. Howard, Edwin D. Martin, Houston Wade, A. C. Bartlett, Mrs. Carrie F. Kemp, Robert M. Ives, Sister M. Agatha, W. A. Paddock, Mrs. Clifford T. Smith, Mayor Oscar F. Holcombe, C. A. Pickett, William G. Smiley, Rufus Cage, Rev. J. H. H. Ellis, Mrs. R. N. Whittaker, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Leddy, Dr. Edgar O. Lovett, Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, Robert H. Kelley, Miss Elizabeth Calder, Mrs. Jennie M. Decker, Miss Mary T. Perkins, Miss Estelle Folk, Judge Roy M. Hofheinz, Rose Todd Hamner, Mrs. J. L. McReynolds, John S. Bonner, open without charge to the public.

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Open to Public.

All ceremonies, both in Houston and at the battleground, will be nesday morning through the Chamber of Commerce of the personnel of the seating committee. Heading it will be James A. Williams, president of the Sons of the Republic of Texas. Serving with him are Mrs. Armond Kainer, Mrs. H. M. Garwood, Mrs. Hedley Jackson, Mrs. C. P. Coleman, Mrs. Fred T. Harris, Charles E. Gilbert, Jr., W. O. Cox, Jimmie Hill Jones and Daffan Gilmer.

SAN JACINTO CELEBRATION PLANS READY

Tickets for Luncheon at San Jacinto Inn on Sale; Cachet Commemorating Event Is Arranged.

H.Chr. 4/13/39

Plans for the two-day series of events in connection with the dedication of the San Jacinto Museum of History, April 20 and 21, were nearing completion Thursday after a conference of all subcommittee chairmen Wednesday with Col. R. C. Kuldell, chairman of the arrangements committee, and Geroge A. Hill, Jr., chairman of the museum association. The meeting was held in the Chamber of Commerce board room.

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Banquet Tickets.

Tickets for the luncheon at San Jacinto Inn April 20 and the banquet at the Rice Hotel April 21 were available Thursday at the Chamber of Commerce. Reservations at the luncheon will be limgle, chairman of the luncheon subited to 400, according to R. J. Slacommittee. Mr. Slagle said that reservations have been received by mail for several days.

Reservations to the banquet will be limited to 500, said E. A. Blackburn, banquet subcommittee head.

Many notables will attend both events. The most recent acceptance of an invitation to serve as official delegate has been received from Marquis Gian Gerolamo Chiavari, Italian consul at New Orleans, who has jurisdiction over Louisiana, Texas, Florida, Mississippi and Georgia. Marquis Chiavari, a member of one of Italy's oldest families, has served in diplomatic capacities in Poland, England, France, Germany and other countries.

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Two-Day Program.

Programs are scheduled at the museum during both of the two days. The museum is in the huge base of the towering San Jacinto Memorial Shaft, largest such structure in the world.

A special cachet commemorating the event will be made and placed upon letters mailed at the battleground during the two days. Envelopes bearing the cachets may be mailed either from the base of the monument or from the observation tower, hundreds of feet in the air. Envelopes bearing the official cachet will be available only at the battleground and not in Houston, said H. Dick Golding, in charge of that feature.

When a call went out for trucks to haul the hundreds of seats to the grounds, the response was immediate, said Holly M. Brock, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the platform arrangements committee. Offer of free use of their trucks was made by the Patrick Transfer Company, Westheimer Transfer Company, the Union Transfer and Storage Company and the W. R. Smith Transfer Company.

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Cruises Arranged.

Arrangements have been perfected for some eight or ten yachts and 25 speedboats to cruise in the Ship Channel adjacent to the battleground during the celebration.

Mr. Hill urged that prospective visitors bring basket lunches. There will be numerous concessions on the grounds where hamburgers, hot dogs and the like will be available.

Meredith James reported that the 90-piece First Houston High School Band would serenade at the grounds. Victor Alessandro directs this band.

Though the distinguished visitors will be taken to the battleground in private cars, the Houston Electric Company will have a limited number of busses available, said Hadley B. Cammack of the traffic and transportation committee, which is headed by Capt. E. W. Mayr.

Ceremonies for Dedication of Museum Drawn

Thousands Expected At Battleground April 20 and 21

H. Press 4/13/39

Ceremonies for the dedication of the San Jacinto Museum of History were in the final stage of planning today.

Thousands of visitors are expected here April 20 and 21 when the Museum will be officially opened, George A. Hill Jr., president, announced.

The list of foreign representatives grew today with the addition of the Marquis Gian Gerolamo Chiavari, Italian consul at New Orleans, as representative of the Royal Academy of Italy at Rome.

The committee in charge of arrangements held its second meeting yesterday at the Chamber of Commerce. R. C Kuldell, general chairman, presided.

He announced that 25 speed boats and eight yachts will ply the Houston Ship Channel, adjoining the battlefield, during the ceremonies.

T. L. Evans said ticket sales for a luncheon at San Jacinto Inn, April 20 at 12:30 p.m., had begun. Reservations, limited to 400, are being made at the Chamber of Commerce. The speaker will be E. C. Barker, history professor at Texas University.

Reservations for the banquet at the Rice Hotel, April 21, will be limited to 500, E. A. Blackburn, chairman of the committee in charge, said.

MUSEUM GETS MESSAGES OF WELL WISHERS

Congratulations Received From All Over World; Many Nations to Be Represented at Dedication.

H.Chg. 4/14/39

With delegates coming here to represent many nations, executives of the San Jacinto Museum of History Friday were receiving congratulatory messages from virtually all parts of the world. Scores are being received daily, said George A. Hill, Jr., president of the San Jacinto Museum Association.

The museum, located in the huge base of the towering San Jacinto Memorial shaft, will be dedicated during two days of elaborate ceremonies, April 20 and 21. The latter is San Jacinto Day, the 103d anniversary of the battle that won Texas independence from Mexico.

The battle was fought April 21, 1836. General Sam Houston led the victorious forces, vastly outnumbered by those under the command of Santa Anna.

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Many Messages.

A congratulatory message was received from the house of lords, London, England. Others have been received from the University of Strasbourg, France, the Nordiska Musett, Stockholm, Sweden; the Institute of France, Paris; Etudes Historiques, Paris; the Manx Museum, Douglas, Isle of Man; Secretary of State Cordell Hull; the National Geographic Society, Washington; the United States National Museum, Washington; the Champlain Society, Toronto, Canada; Department of the Navy, Washington; Smithsonian Institution, Washington; University of Cambridge and the University of London, England; the Archives of France, Paris; Hungarian Historical Museum, Budapest; the National Museum of Wales, Die Universitat Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Germany.

Other such communications have been received from the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburg; Royal Geographical Society, London; Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, London; American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Boston, Mass.; Belfast Public Libraries, Belfast, Ireland; National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, S. E. 10; the archbishop of New Orleans; American Museum of Natural History, Washington, and many others.

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Delegates From Afar.

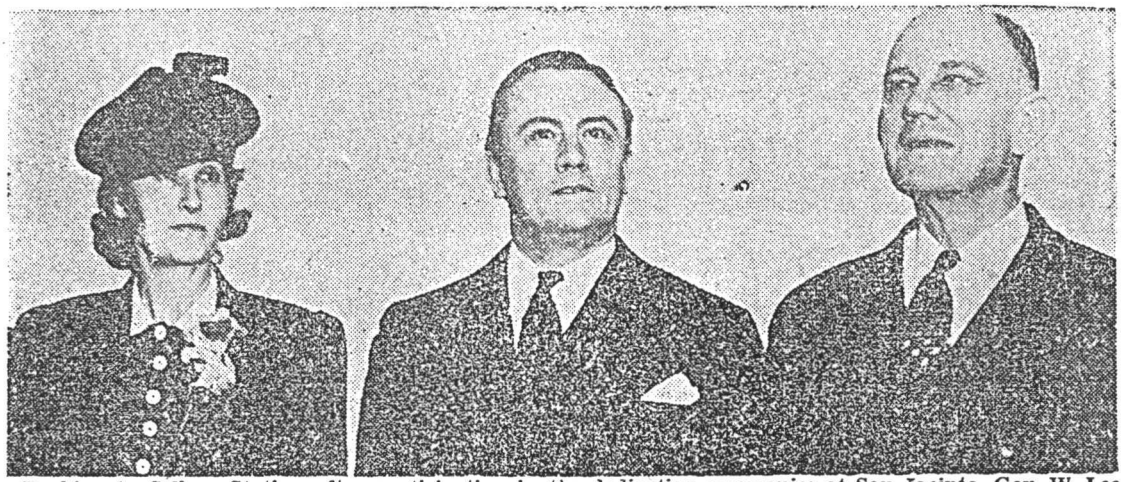
Historical societies both in this country and abroad will have delegates at the dedication, Mr. Hill said.

In a brief talk Thursday Mr. Hill told of the struggle to make the museum possible and to bring within its walls priceless relics of the long history of Texas.

"We have the finest collection in our history," Mr. Hill said. In order to gain an idea of the vast magnitude of it, visualize the Washington Monument coming out of the center of the Lincoln Memorial."

The museum occupies a portion of the vast base of the San Jacinto Memorial Shaft, which towers 567 feet above the hallowed soil on which Gen. Sam Houston and his tattered band of patriots defeated Santa Anna.

The monument will be open to visitors April 20 and San Jacinto Day. A charge of 15 cents for children and 25 cents for adults will be made for those desiring to ride the elevator to the observation tower beneath the monument's massive dome.



Rushing to College Station after participating in the dedication ceremonies at San Jacinto, Gov. W. Lee O'Daniel yesterday afternoon reviewed the Cadet Corps of Texas A. & M. College. Left to rightc Mrs. O'Daniel, the governor, President T. O. Walton of the college.

Two distinguished guests at the dedication of San Jacinto Museum were these two granddaughters of General Sam Houston, shown chatting with one of the Indians brought from the Polk County reservation to provide color for the celebration. They are, left and right, Miss Ariadne Houston and Miss Marguerite Houston.

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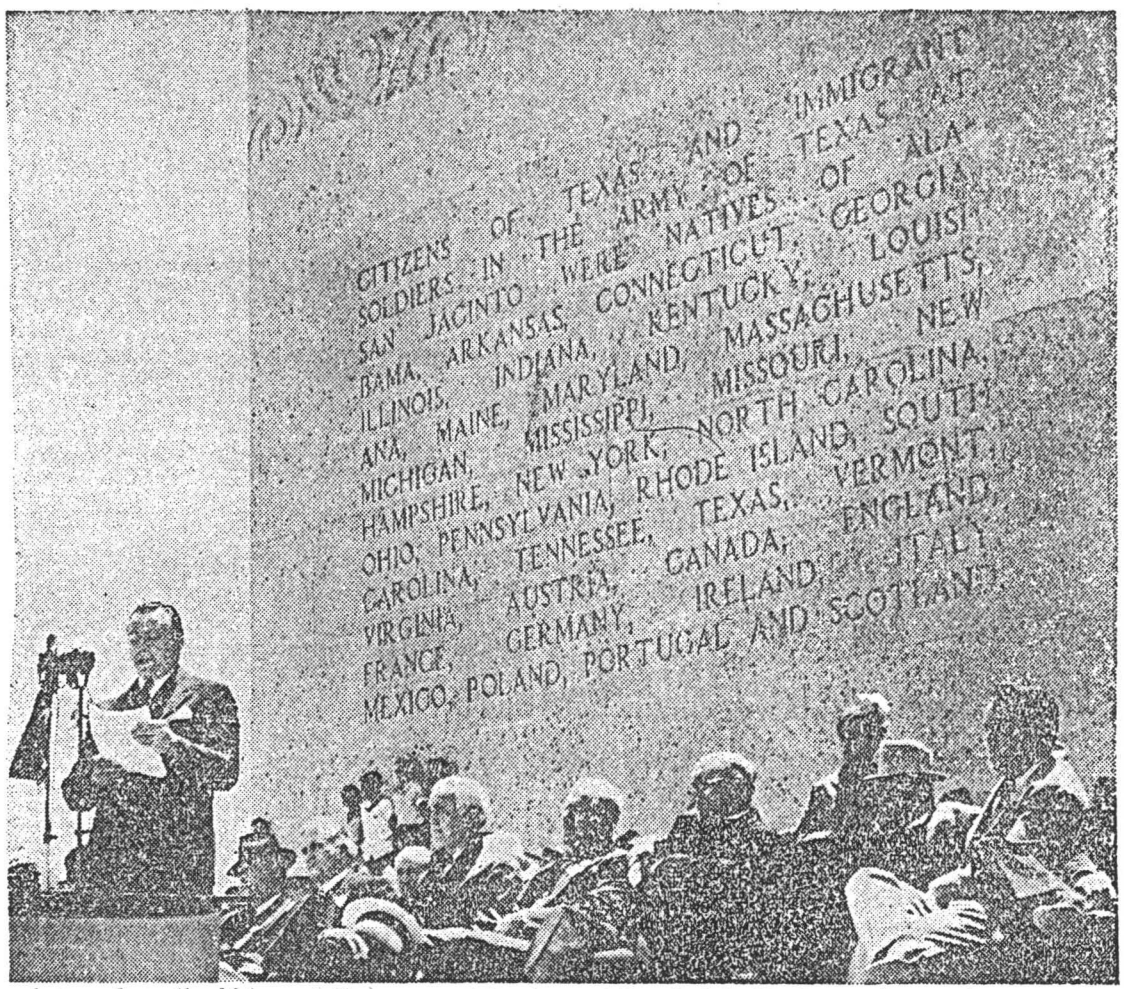
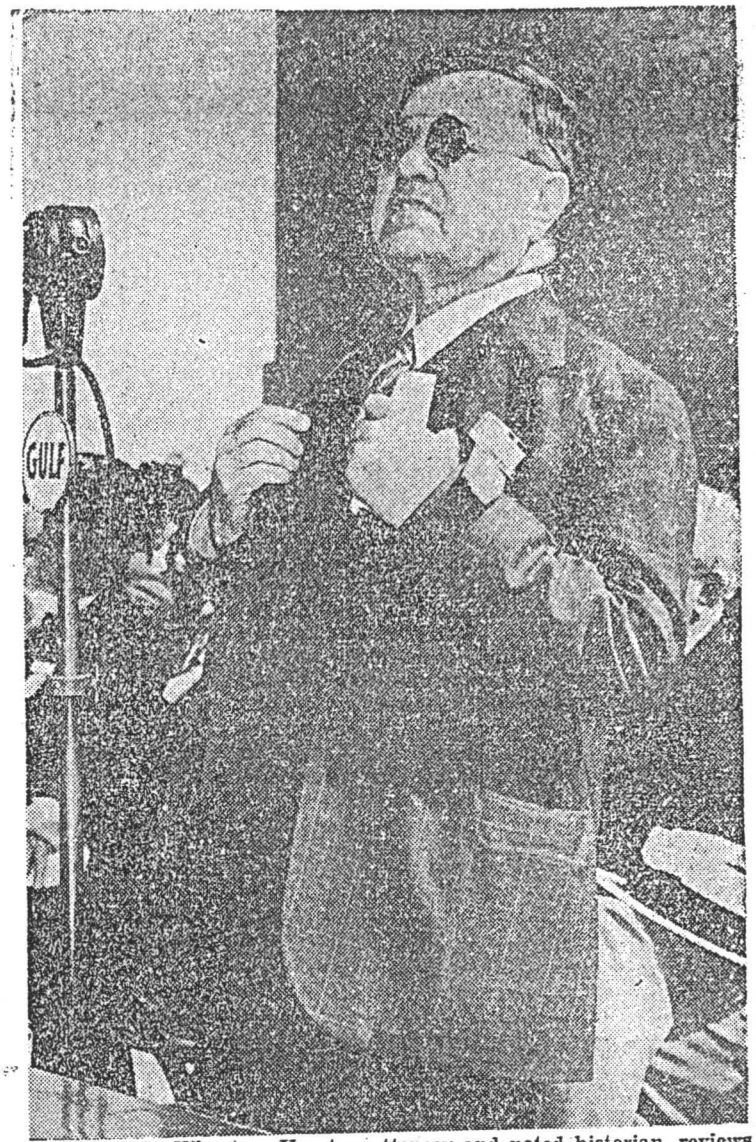
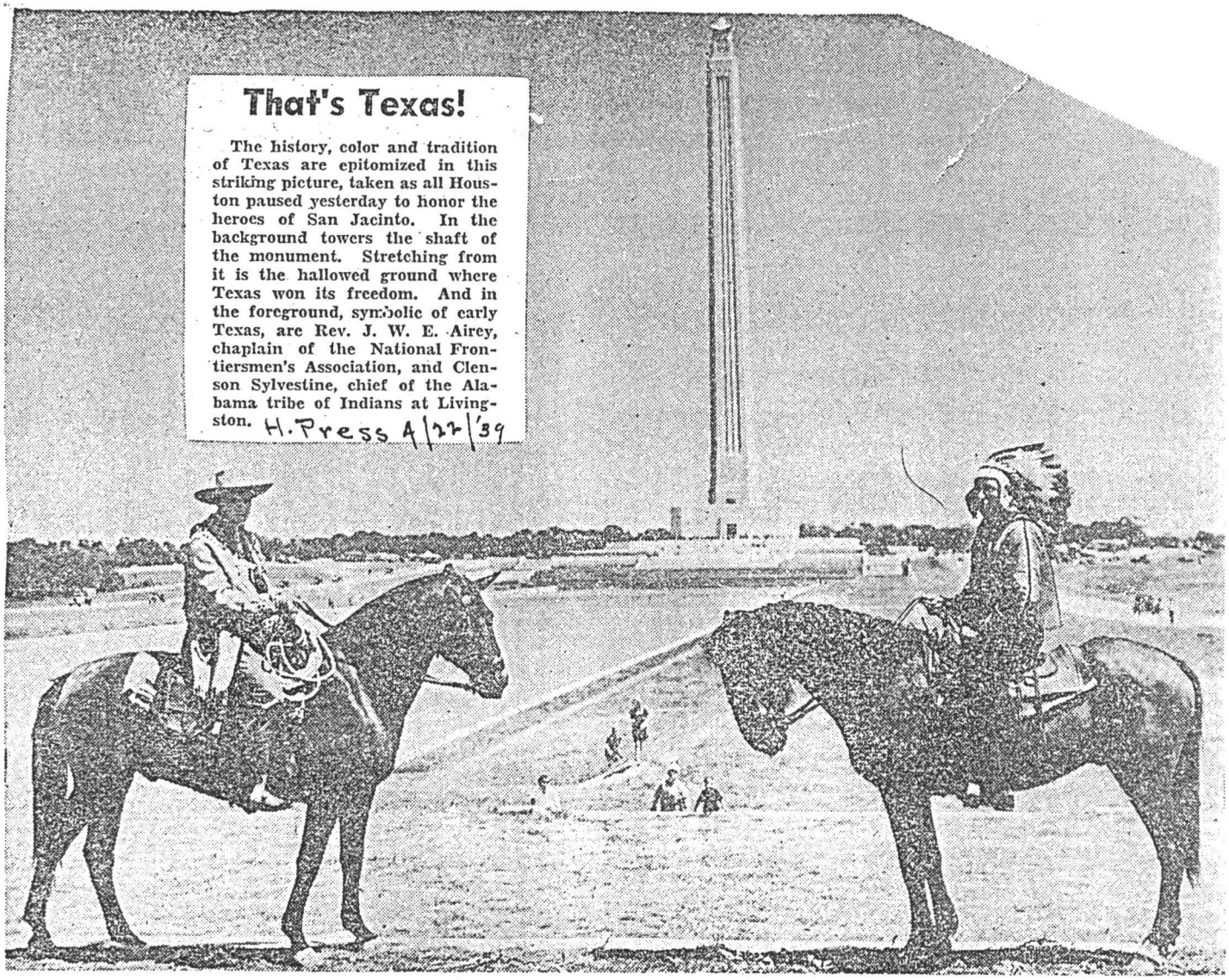

CITIZENS OF TEXAS AND IMMIGRANT
SOLDIERS IN THE ARMY OF TEXAS AT
SAN JACINTO WERE NATIVES OF ALA-
BAMA, ARKANSAS, CONNECTICUT, GEORGIA,
ILLINOIS, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, LOUISI-
ANA, MAINE, MARYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS,
MICHIGAN, MISSISSIPPI, MISSOURI, NEW
HAMPSHIRE, NEW YORK, NORTH CAROLINA,
OHIO, PENNSYLVANIA, RHODE ISLAND, SOUTH
CAROLINA, TENNESSEE, TEXAS, VERMONT,
VIRGINIA, AUSTRIA, CANADA, ENGLAND,
FRANCE, GERMANY, IRELAND, ITALY,
MEXICO, POLAND, PORTUGAL AND SCOTLAND

A page from the history of Texas, carved in stone, at San Jacinto Monument, forms a background for Governor O'Daniel, as he delivered his address yesterday at the dedication of San Jacinto Museum. Seated behind the governor, left to right: William Bates, George A. Hill Jr., Mayor Holcombe, Dr. E. E. Oberholtzer, Bishop Clinton S. Quin and Ike Moore.



Clarence R. Wharton, Houston attorney and noted historian, reviews the history of early Texas, as he speaks at the dedication of San Jacinto Museum.



That's Texas!

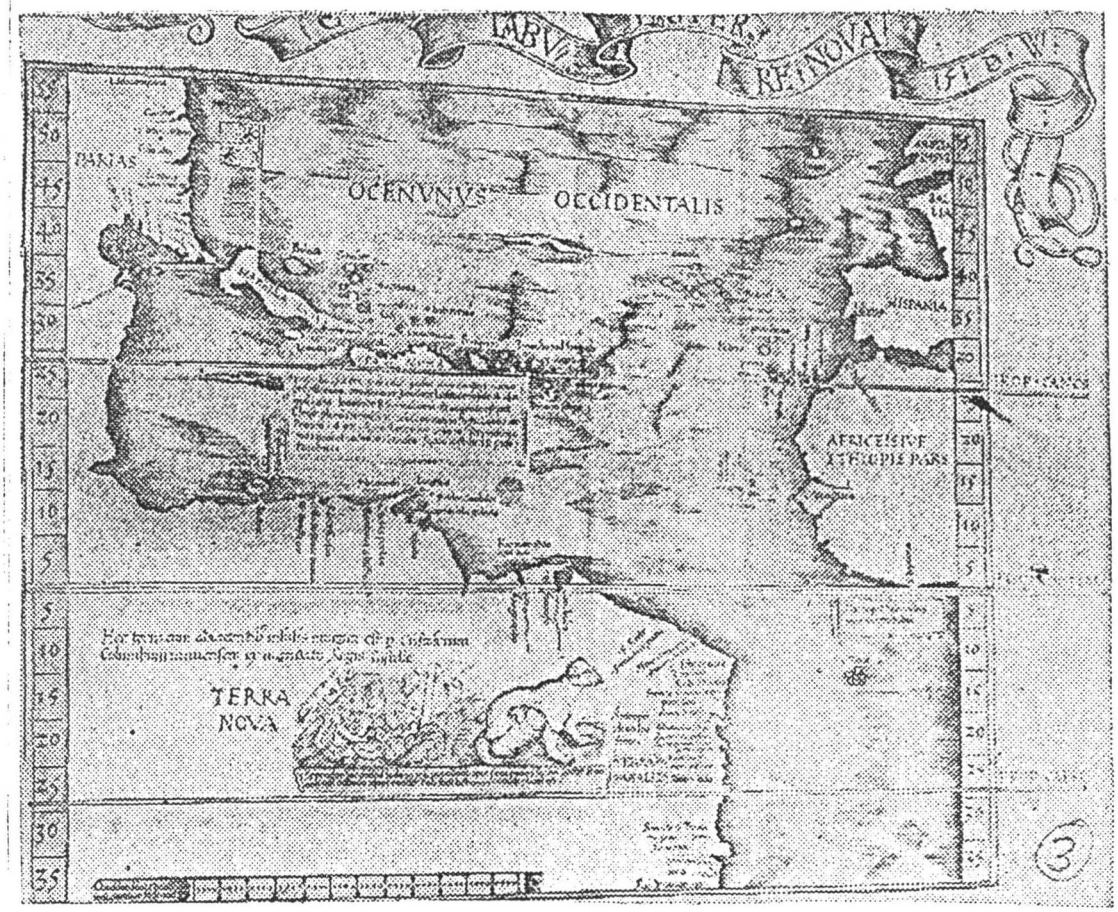
The history, color and tradition of Texas are epitomized in this striking picture, taken as all Houston paused yesterday to honor the heroes of San Jacinto. In the background towers the shaft of the monument. Stretching from it is the hallowed ground where Texas won its freedom. And in the foreground, symbolic of early Texas, are Rev. J. W. E. Airey, chaplain of the National Frontiersmen's Association, and Clenson Sylvestine, chief of the Alabama tribe of Indians at Livingston. H. Press 4/22/'39

4/16/39

Items From Collections at San Jacinto Museum

4-16-39 4/16/39

Upper left, Mrs. Malcolm McLean, receptionist at the San Jacinto museum, examines an old book published in the eighteenth century. It is bound in old parchment, which once was a piece of music. At the upper right Ike Moore, director of the museum, examines the pistol of Santa Anna, which is lent by the Daughters of the Texas Republic. The lower picture is a map of 1503.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Historians to Attend Battle Shaft Museum Dedication

Texas U. Professor to Be Speaker; Exhibit Rooms Contain Priceless Items of Texana

Historians, scholars, patriots and just plain folk will come from many parts of Texas and the nation on Thursday and Friday to celebrate the 103rd anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto.

They will come also to see the dedication of the San Jacinto Museum of History, a museum which is housed in the base of the San Jacinto monument, which commemorates the decisive victory Gen. Sam Houston and his army won on the field April 21, 1836.

The dedication ceremonies will open at 10:30 a. m. Thursday, with George A. Hill Jr., president of the San Jacinto Museum of History, presiding.

Eugene C. Barker, professor of American history at the University of Texas, will be the speaker and his subject will be "Three Types of Historical Interpretation."

Luncheon Scheduled

There will be a luncheon at the San Jacinto inn after the ceremonies at the monument. William E. Wrather, president of the Texas State Historical association, will preside and Marcel Moraud, professor of romance languages at Rice Institute, will speak on "Texas in European History."

Carlos E. Castaneda, president of the American Catholic Historical association and Latin American librarian at the University of Texas, will speak at 2:30 p. m. Thursday at the museum on "Pioneers in Sackcloth." L. W. Kemp, vice president of the museum and president of the Harris County Historical society, will preside.

Priceless records and relics will be on display at the museum during and after the two-day ceremonies. Some of the exhibits which have been lent for the opening may be at the museum as long as a month. There are also some permanent exhibits.

Ike Moore, director of the museum, and his assistants were busy Saturday placing the items of Texana, gathered from many parts of the old and new worlds, in the museum's glass cases.

Many of the items have been given already to the museum. Several extremely valuable private collections, including the Thomas W. Streeter collection of Texana, have been lent.

When everything is in place, Mr. Moore said, the museum will tell the story of the new world and Texas from 1492 to 1860 by means of the letters, pictures, documents and personal items of the men and women who made the history of the state.

Already in the cases Saturday were a letter signed by Ferdinand and Isabella, who made possible the voyage of Columbus; the autograph of Cortez, who conquered Mexico; a map of the world published in 1507; 20 unpublished letters of Sam Houston; original orders issued by Spanish kings from 1562 to 1660; Santa Anna's pistol, and hundreds of other equally valuable items.

Many Are Gifts

Many of the most valuable items already owned by the museum were the gifts of Mr. Hill. The Spanish royal orders, or "sedulas," were given by Mr. Hill.

The Ferdinand and Isabella letter was among the documents lent by Dr. William E. Howard of Dallas, and the 1507 map of the world was one of the items lent by E. De Golyer of Dallas.

Other items were lent by the University of Texas library, the Dallas Historical society, the Texas state library and many individuals.

The museum occupies three large rooms at the base of the San Jacinto monument. The items on display are arranged in counter-clockwise order around the base of the huge shaft.

Visitors first will enter the Spanish room, in which are all items relating to Spanish and Mexican ownership of Texas. Next they will enter the library, in which the Streeter collection is housed, and finally the large room on the north side of the base, in which are items of the years 1821 to 1860.

The Streeter collection, Mr. Moore said, is the most valuable private collection of printed Texana in existence.

The collection includes Cabeza de Vaca's book on his travels through Texas from 1528 to 1536, a letter sent by William - Barrett Travis from the Alamo to the citizens of Gonzales in which he asked for aid, and a letter of Sam Houston's in which the Texas leader mentions the fall of the Alamo.

An unusual item in the collection is a copy of the Lexington, Ky., Intelligencer of May 14, 1836.

Travis' Appeal For Provisions And Men Shown

By IONE KIRKHAM

A treasure in historical documents, tattered maps that tell of Texas' beginning and relics that mirror life of centuries ago lies in the San Jacinto Museum.

The exhibit cases which fill three large rooms in the base of the memorial shaft at the Battle Grounds should prove a mecca for the historical minded, the patriots and the just plain curious.

Of interest to many undoubtedly will be the 20 unpublished letters of Sam Houston.

But more stirring than these are the fading notes that tell of events in the bitter struggle with Mexico.

There is Travis' appeal for men and provisions for the beseiged Alamo. And there is Houston's letter to one of his captains after the Alamo's fall with this significant postscript:

"I am inclined to believe from the facts communicated to me that the Alamo has fallen and all our men are murdered. We must not depend upon forts. The woods and ravines suit us best."

Other cases hold equally interesting displays.

Santa Anna's pistol and the will in his own handwriting are shown along with swords of Mexican officers.

There is a manuscript map of Texas made by Austin in 1822. And there is a complete display of documents and prints on the early Texas navy.

Dipping still further into Texas' early history, there is a gold medallion of the handsome Cavalier de la Salle and the elegant signature of Cortez.

There is a document signed by Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain and several other historical manuscripts of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth century bearing the signatures of nobles.

There are prints and date on the first missions and books of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries listing titles and land lying within the jurisdiction of San Cristobal Hecaltepque.

Roughly the material covers the period from 1519 through the winning of Texas' independence. Most of the items on display are originals.

The collection is valued in excess of $175,000.

Among those instrumental in equipping the Museum for its opening were Thomas W. Streeter of New York, Emil Hurja of Washington, E. DeGolger and Dr. W. E. Howard of Dallas, the Dallas Historical Society, the Texas State Library, the University of Texas Library, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Museum and George A. Hill Jr.

Mr. Hill is president of the San Jacinto Museum and also of the Museum of Fine Arts of Houston.

The exhibit rooms will remain open daily under direction of Ike Moore, director, Malcolm McLean, assistant archivist, and Mrs. McLean, receptionist.

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San Jacinto Museum Ready for Opening

H. Chr. 4/16/39

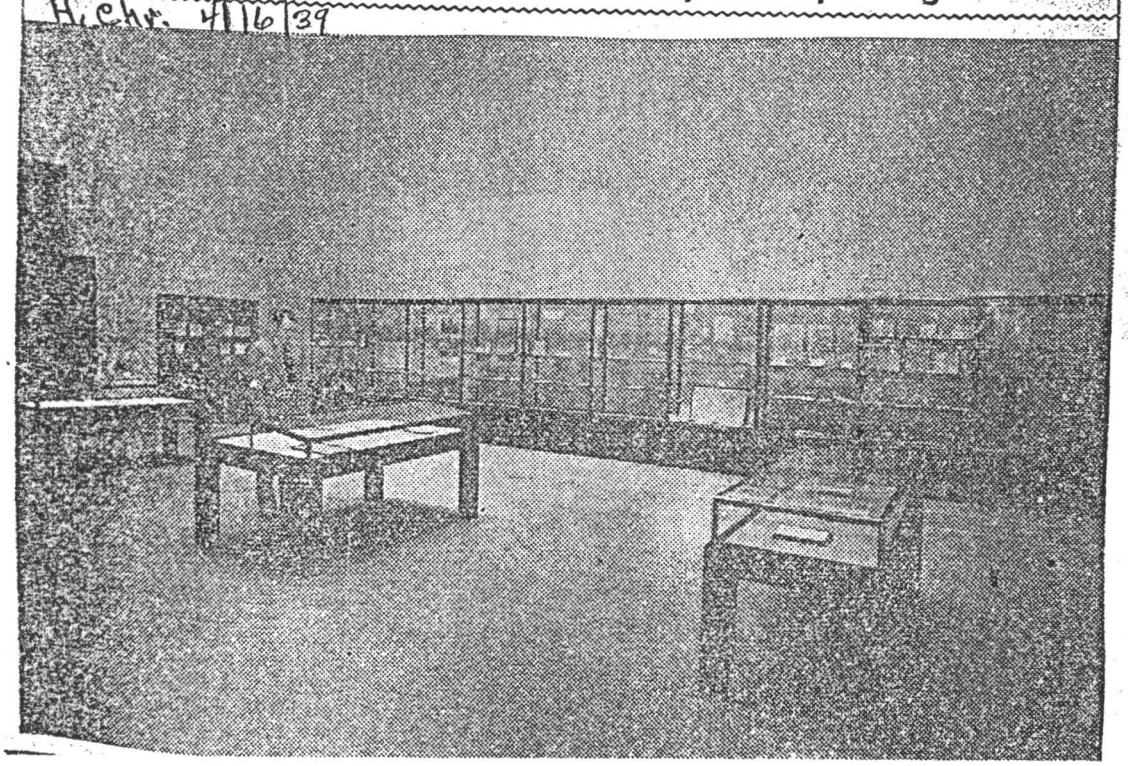

Exhibit to Be Opened On Thursday

One of the finest of Texas historical collections ever assembled will be ready for exhibition in the San Jacinto Museum of History at the inauguration and dedication of the museum Thursday and Friday at the San Jacinto Battleground, Ike Moore, director, announced Saturday.

In Three Main Rooms.

The Streeter, DeGolyer and Hurja collections are being loaned to the museum, Moore said. The complete exhibits are being arranged in three main rooms in the monument base, the Spanish room, the library room and the Anglo-American room.

"Entry will be by way of the west door," Moore explained. "This door opens into the lobby. Visitors will turn right from the lobby into the Spanish room. Here the exhibits will include the DeGolyer and Hill collections, as well as many others which have either been loaned or given to the museum."

Moore said exhibits in the Spanish Room are for the period 1492 to 1821. Among these will be rare Spanish and French maps from the DeGolyer group. One of the maps is of the New World of 1507.

Also to be displayed in this room will be documents signed by Ferdinand and Isabella, from the collection of Dr. W. E. Howard of Dallas. Another featured display in the Howard collection will be an original signature of Hernando Cortes.

The collection of Mr. Streeter of Morristown, N. J., will be shown in a massive display case in the adjoining Library Room. Highlights of this group include the letter of Travis, dated February 23, 1836, written at the Alamo and addressed to the citizens of Gonzales, asking for assistance; Sam Houston's letter that he had heard reports that the Alamo had fallen.

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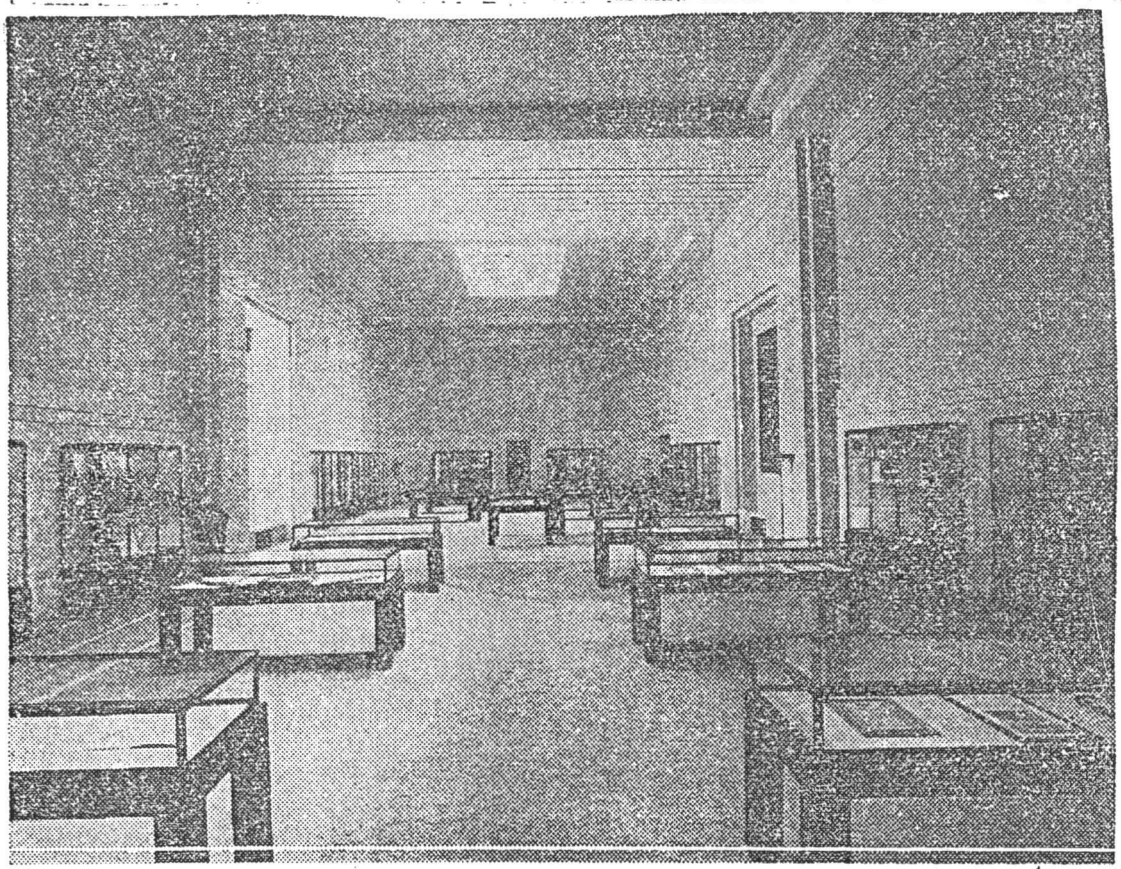
Austin Message.

Another in the Streeter group is the only known copy of Stephen F. Austin's message to the Austin Settlement of July, 1823, in which he tells the settlement citizens, "Let me again repeat that your happiness rests with yourselves," and that Mexico urges them to "be good citizens and virtuous men" and "firm supporters and defenders of the independence and liberty of Mexico."

Still another is the yellow leaflet containing the first printed matter ever done in Texas—December 5, 1813. The leaflet is a proclamation issued by a revolutionist of the period.

An "extra" edition, a page about 5 by 8 inches, of the Lexington Intelligencia of May 14, 1836, telling in headlines of the time "the glorious news of the capture of Santa Anna," is a rare part of this exhibition as well as its Texas guide books of 1839, its printed copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence, which is one of four known copies.

In the Anglo-American Room various other collections will be shown. Here, one display case will contain 20 letters written by Gen. Sam Houston that never have been published. The letters were written during the period 1814 to 1860 and are from the Hurja collection. Various small portrait prints also are included.



Interior views of the San Jacinto Battleground Monument Museum are shown here. ~~At top~~ 1 is the library, with a large wall case for exhibiting historical documents. ~~Below~~ 2 are exhibit cases in another part of the monument.

Within a day or two, he said, all exhibits will be in display cases ready for the opening Thursday of the museum located in the base structure of the San Jacinto Monument. The dedicatory program begins at 10:30 a.m., with George A. Hill, Jr., president, presiding.

Among the outstanding historical collections pertaining to Texas will be the famous Thomas W. Streeter exhibit, which includes various manuscripts, documents and letters of early-day Texans; the E. DeGolyer exhibit of early Texas maps and manuscripts; the 20 unpublished letters of Sam Houston of the Emil Hurja collection, and the exhibits of Spanish maps and manuscripts given to the museum by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Hill, Jr.

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Santa Anna's Pistol.

A pistol used by General Santa Anna will be on display through the courtesy of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. A Mexican sword, from the San Jacinto Battleground, swords used by Texans, and other articles, reminders of that heroic struggle, also will be included.

Mr. Streeter, Mr. Hurja of Washington, D. C., and Mr. DeGolyer are to be present for the ceremonies, which will feature several addresses during each of the two days.

In addition to Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Houstonians who have either loaned or donated material to the museum include the following: Claude Amerson, Mrs. W. M. Baines, Ben McCulloch Brown, Rufus Cage, D. H. Craig, Miss Nina J. Cullinan, San Jacinto Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Fletcher and son, Tyler Herrick Fletcher, Mrs. Virginia Kidd Dunlap, Henry E. Elrod, Herbert Godwin, Mrs. Rosa Tod Hamner, Miss Helen Holmes Harrison, Miss Edith House, Houston Public Library, Dr. W. G. Hugly, Miss Annie Hume, Mrs. Jennie Isenhour, Mrs. Carrie Franklin Kemp, Mrs. C. H. Milby, Miss Mary Tod, Professor M. Moraud, Nils Muench, Mrs. Hally Bryan Perry, Mrs. Erl R. Ramsey, L. H. Roach, Sr., W. S. Tate family, C. R. Wharton.

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Aid From Outside.

Persons of other cities who have made loans or donations include: Mrs. W. W. Armstrong, Wharton; Mrs. Elizabeth B. Bronaugh, Maj. James D. Brown and B. M. Brown, Edna; Dallas Historical Society; Daughters of the Republic of Texas Museum, Austin; G. B. Dealey, Dallas; F. M. O. Fenn, Richmond; Mrs. W. F. Fitsimmons, Baytown; Brig. Gen.

Many Famous Documents Included

Andrew Jackson Houston, La Porte; Dr. W. E. Howard, Dallas; Mrs. E. F. McCrae, Dallas; Mrs. Ernest Powdrill, Dallas; State Board of Control, Austin; Texas State Library, Austin; the University of Texas Library, Austin.

Speakers Thursday include: Eugene C. Barker, professor of American history, University of Texas, 10:30 a.m.; Marcel Moraud, professor of romance languages, Rice Institute, 12:30 p.m.; Carlos E. Castaneda, Latin-American librarian, University of Texas, 2:30 p.m. Friday speakers are: Radoslav A. Tsanoff, professor of philosophy, Rice Institute, 10 a.m.; Governor W. Lee O'Daniel, introduced by Mayor Oscar Holcombe, noon; Clarence R. Wharton, attorney and historian, 2:30 p.m., and Peter Molyneaux, editor and publisher of the Texas Weekly, 7:30 p.m.

The morning and afternoon addresses will be made at the amphitheatre east of the San Jacinto Monument. The noon assemblies will be at San Jacinto Inn and the program Friday night will be held at the Rice Hotel.

Poem by Mrs. Mary Myers Callaway On San Jacinto Monument Will Be Presented to Museum by Author

H. Post - 4/16/39

Mrs. Mary Myers Callaway, native Texan and descendant of a pioneer Texas family, has written a poem on the San Jacinto monument, which she will present to San Jacinto museum San Jacinto day.

The poem is dedicated to the Sons and Daughters of the Texas Republic. Mrs. Callaway was former poet-laureate of Matagorda county.

She is the great granddaughter of J. K. Rankin, a friend of Gen. Sam Houston. Houston Meyer, Mrs. Callaway's father, was a namesake of General Houston.

Mrs. Callaway, the mother of eight children, manages to find time to write poetry besides keeping house. She has also started a book on United States history.

Speaker Says Vision Of Texas as Haven For Liberty Grips Europe

Magnet Which Drew Early Settlers From Abroad Still Exerts Influence, Moraud Declares.

H. Chr. 4/20/39

"Texas has traveled a long way towards recognition by European nations and their historians, and it has not yet reached its goal," declared Prof. Marcel Moraud, head of the romance language department at Rice Institute, in the noon program Thursday of the San Jacinto Museum dedication at San Jacinto Inn.

Professor Moraud spoke on "Texas in European History" and outlined the steps by which Texas was brought to the European consciousness and how it became politically important to France and Spain.

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Unknown Country.

"To the bold navigators of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, who ventured on the dreaded waves of the Gulf of Mexico, Texas—then a country without a name—was nothing more than a treacherous shoreline on which ships were easily wrecked and where no European settlement had ever survived," he said.

"To the early Spanish gold and glory seekers, whose minds had been spurred by the magnificent success of Cortez in his conquest of Mexico, Texas represented vast and unknown territories in which similar glory might be gained and where untold riches might be discovered.

"However, the death of De Soto seems to have put an end to all Spanish illusions as to fabulous treasure, ever fleeing like an eternal mirage, which had cost so many lives and brought so little in the end.

"For over 100 years, Spain lost all interest in the vast territories between Florida and the very vague northern frontier of Mexico. She had no idea of their strategic or economic value or future possibilities. Texas still remained a country without a name. It did not even appear on most European maps of the time.

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France Moves In.

"It was to be placed on the map by the French, who by the end of the seventeenth century were to threaten the Spanish preponderance in the old and the new world."

Professor Moraud sketched La Salle's disastrous expedition to Texas in 1690 and added that a new expedition was sent to Texas by the French in 1721 at the same place where La Salle's companions had been murdered 30 years before.

"The coming of the French awoke the Spanish to the importance of Texas," Professor Moraud continued. "They promptly resolved to put an end to the encroachment which would have threatened their none-to-secure hold in Northern Mexico. And in order to pluck out the 'thorn in their side' they organized one expedition after another, till one day they found the remnants of the French colony, already plundered and almost wiped out by the Indians.

"Undismayed by the failure of the French, the Spaniards set out to conquer Texas by the cross and the sword. And thus began the era of the missions, of the humble and gentle pioneers of the faith who went forth unarmed to place huge territories under the shadow of the cross, and this was followed by a slight and, on the whole, very humane military occupation which lasted until 1821."

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Spain Clings On.

Continuing, Professor Moraud said that the cartography of the Southwest had made great progress between 1685 and 1720 and Texas began receiving proper recognition on European maps. Stories of the expeditions of La Salle and others had been translated into English and other languages, German, Dutch and Italian."

"No wonder then that the American Southwest should have attracted travelers of almost every nationality, American, British, German and French, from the early days to the nineteenth century," Professor Moraud declared.

"But the more Texas seemed to appeal to other countries, the less Spain was willing to give it up. In 1817 she sold Florida, but she clung to a territory apparently of no value, where she levied no taxes, which had been a source of sorrow and anxiety to her, and she remained to the last till Mexico freed itself from Spanish domination."

The establishment of a settlement near Liberty by a group of veterans of the Napoleonic wars, at which a liberal constitution was drawn—probably the first in Texas—stirred Europe, Professor Moraud said.

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Vision of Liberty.

"The news, of course, filtered out to New Orleans, to Philadelphia and to Washington," Professor Moraud continued. "It reached Europe, where it was greeted with great enthusiasm and both the name of Champ d'Asile, or Haven of Shelter, which they had given to their establishment, and the name of Texas were on the lips of thousands of free, and would-be free men in Europe. Never blotted from European liberal minds was the vision of a huge state where men of all nationalities could work in peace and under the two-fold and priceless blessing of tolerance and liberty.

"I need not ask you in how many thousands of European minds this vision may be burning today. To this, and to the magnificent struggle for its independence, Texas owes far more than to the promises and propaganda of impresarios, some of the best elements among its European settlers."

Professor Moraud declared that some rich and glamorous recollections of Texas remain for Europe today.

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Coming Into Own.

"Some of you may be surprised to hear that less is actually written in Europe on Texas life today than in the middle of the nineteenth century," he said. "And that what is written is often far less interesting than the descriptions, historical sketches and the emigration pamphlets written a hundred years ago."

He added that while few books are being written in foreign countries about Texas, that Texas is gradually coming into its own in the field of historical research. He said that differences in languages and inaccessibility of documents needed for research hampered the early work of historians.

Closing, Professor Moraud said, "To the great natural riches of this huge state and to those which human science and industry will create, those contributing to the history of Texas are adding another and priceless treasure which will make new generations look back to the past of this great state with even more pride than we do today."

Spanish Missionaries Lauded for Part In Civilization of Texas

Carlos E. Castaneda, University Latin American Librarian, Pays Tribute to Catholic Padres of Early Days.

H.Chr. 4/20/39

The kindly, patient padre is responsible for bringing religion and civilization to Texas and the Southwest, Carlos E. Casteneda, Latin American librarian of the University of Texas and president of the American Catholic Historical Association, said Thursday in an address at San Jacinto Battleground.

Mr. Castaneda traced the history of the work done by the Franciscan and other missionaires.

"The conquistador blazed a trail of desolation in his ruthless search for wealth and glory, the greedy miner left ugly scars on mountainsides and native races, but the kindly padre salted the wounds, comforted the ailing, taught the untutored and saved the souls of countless heathen while leading them in the peaceful pursuits of civilization," he declared.

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Civilization's Standard Bearer.

"Among the pioneers of Texas, the padre stands a magnificent figure wrapped in humble sackcloth, giving all for the joy of service and the hope of martyrdom. To him the salvation of human beings was more precious than gold. He was the standard bearer of civilization, for under his patient and loving care the untrained Indian learned to till the soil, to master arts and crafts and to acquire habits of industry.

"We are just beginning to appreciate the work of the missionary as a pioneer. We find him on horseback, more often on foot, side by side with the conquistador and the explorer. Frequently he blazed the trail alone, penetrating far into unknown lands in search of converts. No hardship was too great, no sacrifice beyond his power of endurance, no suffering unbearable."

The Spanish missions, an institution unknown to the English and the French, was the means of bringing to millions of human beings in the newly discovered territories a realization of Christianity and the ordered processes of civilization, Mr. Castaneda said.

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First Social Units.

"The Spanish mission was a frontier institution designed to Christianize and civilize the native races of America," he continued. They may rightly be called the greatest civilizing influence in the conquest of the New World. They were in reality the first vocational schools, the first agricultural experimental stations, the first industrial centers, the first self-government units, the first health and amusement centers."

Mr. Castaneda said that the seventeenth century saw the spark of missionary work fanned into flame by a delegation of Jumano Indians, who came in July, 1639, to old Islota, in New Mexico to ask missionaries to visit their country and instruct their people.

"From the visit of the Jumanos time dates the systemic planning that ultimately resulted in the establishment of missions where the pioneers of the church were to begin their work of civilization.

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Led by Franciscan.

"The central figure in the new advance that was to cross the Rio Grande into Texas in the vicinity of Eagle Pass was a Franciscan friar from Guadalajara, Mexico, Frey Juan Larios, who with his companions was the first to begin work in 1674-76.

"Contrary to general belief, the first formal attempts to Christianize the Indians in Texas were not the results of the search for treasure, nor the fear of foreign aggression. They were the results of the earnest desire of Franciscan missionaries to extend their field of activity.

"The energetic Frey Damian Massanet and his companions established two missions before the end of 1691. Fields were cultivated, orchards planted and cattle introduced. But the Indians soon tired of ordered life. They soon became surly and threatened the very existence of the padres. One night, the small band of soldiers and disappointed missionaries was forced to steal away, after burying the mission bells and small cannon, and setting fire to the missions."

Father Francisco Hidalgo is responsible for the reoccupation of East Texas by the missionaries, Mr. Castandea said.

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Six Missions Founded.

"New workers poured into Texas," he continued. "Six missions were founded in East Texas. The site of San Antonio saw the mission of Valero rise, conjured, as it were, by the fervent zeal of Father Antonio de San Buenaventura Olivares. Here numerous natives from different coastal tribes were congregated.

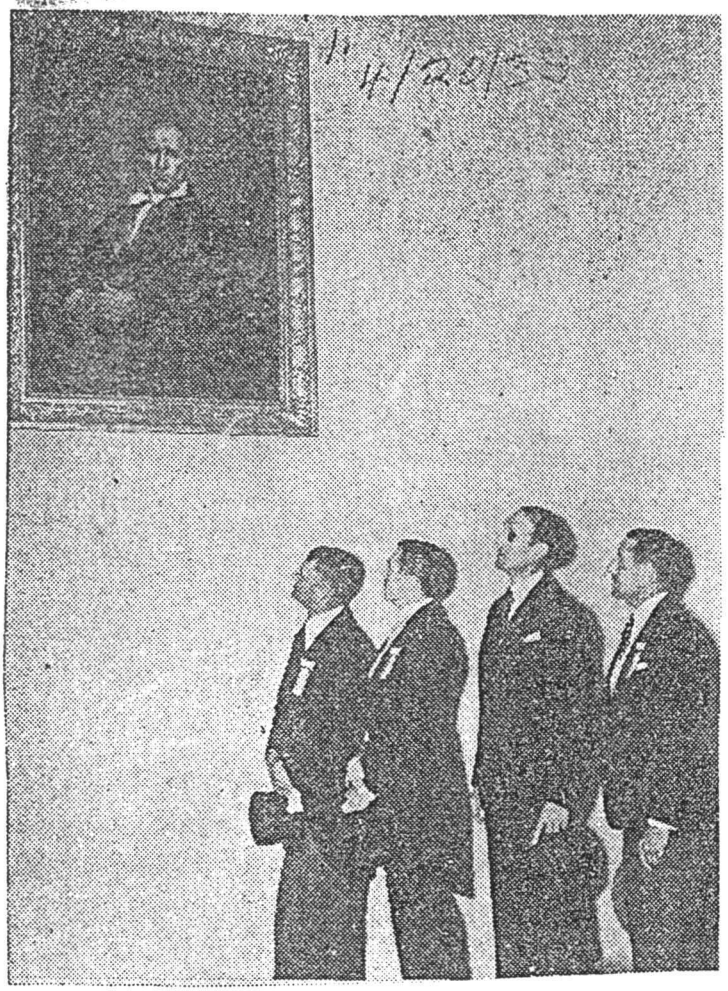
"But this notable mission was not only to be the nursery of thousands of natives born to Christianity and civilization but was the cradle of Texas independence, the immortal Alamo, from which Travis was to send the ringing call that brought forth a new nation.

"How did the zealous missionaries attempt to convert and civilize the natives? By trying to reproduce within the mission the conditions of a self-governing, economically independent, self-supporting community, where the Indian could learn the fundamental teachings of Christianity and at the same time learn a new method of living compatible with the religious instruction he was receiving that would eventually enable him to take his place among civilized men."

Mr. Casteneda said that, at first, the Indians were attracted to the missions by the chance to live in a place where they could obtain regular food and adequate shelter. As the missions developed, the Indians had their own government, supervised by the padres.

"But in spite of hardships, suffering and lack of co-operation, and the constant depredations of hostile tribes, the missions founded by the Franciscans reached a surprising state of progress after 13 years of their permanent establishment. Truly, it has been said, that in the Spanish regime, the most conspicuous work of the period was done by the missionaries."

San Jacinto Museum of History Dedicated



The San Jacinto Museum of History, which will hold documents and relics pertaining to early Texas history, was dedicated in its home in the base of the San Jacinto Monument Thursday. The ceremonies will continue Friday.

(~~Top left.~~) Representatives of the British and French governments, H. E. Slaymaker, British representative at Galveston; J. P. Summerscale of the British embassy in Washington; R. la Montagne St. Hubert of Paris, an official of the National Museum of France, and Leslie Dufton, Houston cottonman, are looking at one of the paintings of Gen. Sam Houston in the museum. (~~Top middle.~~) The first letter sent under a special cachet from the top of the monument was addressed to President Roosevelt and was mailed by Dick Golding, who is holding the mail pouch. Miss Margaret Scullin and Miss Suan Barry, who donated the Texas Centennial stamp for mailing, look on. (~~Top right.~~) Gen. Andrew Jackson Houston, only living son of Gen. Sam Houston, looks at the plaque in the tower bearing the names of some of the men wounded in the war for independence.

(~~Center.~~) Many Texans and representatives of other states signed the register. (Left to right) Emma Kyle Burleson of the Texas State Library Board, signing, while Mrs. Mamie Wynne Cox of Dallas, Mrs. Royal Stoner of Laguna and Mrs. Ezwoh B. Snead watch.

(~~Lower left.~~) Col. George A. Hill, Jr., president of the San Jacinto Museum of History, opens the ceremonies Thursday morning. (~~Lower center.~~) Eugene C. Barker, professor of American History at the university, the main speaker at the morning session. (~~Lower right.~~) Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Castaneda looking at the names of the men who took part in the battle of San Jacino. Mr. Castaneda is Latin-American librarian at the University of Texas and president of the American Catholic Historical Association.

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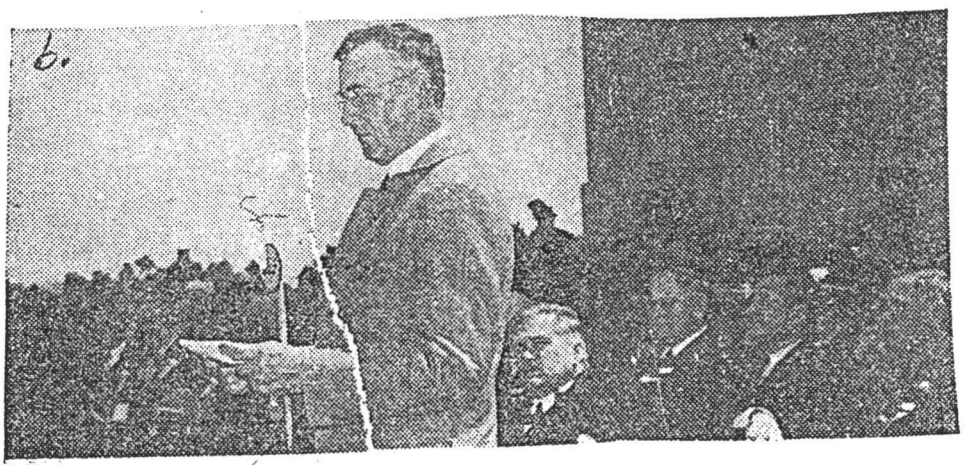
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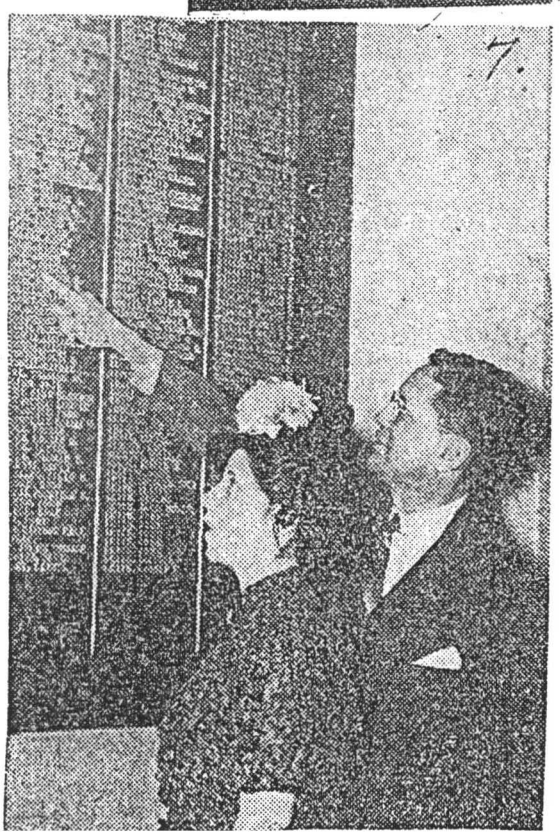
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Eminent men and women from all walks of life gathered at San Jacinto battle ground Thursday for the opening ceremonies of a two-day program dedicating the new San Jacinto Museum of History. ~~Above, left to right:~~ Carlos E. Castaneda, Latin-American librarian at the University of Texas; Marcel Moraud, professor of romance languages at Rice Institute; Eugene C. Barker, professor of American history at the University of Texas; Most Rev. C. E. Byrne, bishop of Galveston; George A. Hill Jr., who presided at the Thursday morning program; L. W. Kemp, who presided at the Thursday afternoon program; Rabbi Henry Cohen of Galveston.

Below is a group at the noon luncheon at San Jacinto inn. Left to right: Clarence R. Wharton, Houston attorney and historian; Miss Ima Hogg and former Governor Ross S. Sterling.

Vatican Sends Letter Of Felicitations to Texans

H.Chr. 4/20/39

Felicitations and best wishes from the Vatican to Texans celebrating the 103rd anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto were read before a battleground audience Thursday afternoon by Most Rev. Christopher E. Byrne, bishop of Galveston.

The people of Texas were assured in a letter from Vatican Secretary of State L. Carmaglione of "the hopes and fervent prayers" of the holy father that "Almighty God may grant them a continuation and increase of happiness and prosperity under a resign of mutual justice and charity."

The secretary of state's letter said the historian of the future will assuredly judge it eminently fitting that the Catholic Church should be represented at this revocation of a glorious past, for the Holy See was among the first to address a message of salutation to the new state (Texas) which issued from the event here commemorated. "And one of the first acts of independent Texas was to restore to the ministers of religion the altars of the church, from the early days of discovery and exploration, and there erected to the glory of God for the salvation of souls," the letter added.

"This spirit of helpful co-operation has continued for a century to make the relations existing between the state of Texas and its Catholic citizens, and it has been fruitful of good both to religion and to the civil government. Today Catholicity flourishes throughout the territory of the state of Texas; its churches, its schools, its charitable and social institutions, its consecrated men and women, its faithful children, are found in every city and country place. And wherever it is found, it teaches and exemplifies, together with the love and service of God, the doctrine of love for fellow man and respect, loyalty and obedience toward the constituted authority of the state.

"On this memorable occasion, therefore, when the noble and generous citizens of a great state rear a monument in memory of their independence, the Holy See gladly takes part in their rejoicing and offers its felicitations and best wishes."

Sam Houston's Son Signs Register at Museum

H. Chr. 4/21/29

Col. Andrew Jackson Houston, son of Sam Houston, signs the visitors' register at the San Jacinto Museum of History while his niece, Mrs. Jennie M. Decker of Houston, looks over his shoulder. —Staff Photo by Peters.

Texans Resolve to Guard Liberty Won At San Jacinto as Museum Rites Begin

Folklore and Legend Have Place in Museum, Declares Dr. Tsanoff at Dedication

H. Chr. 4/21/'39

Folklore and legend have a place in any historical museum because they add to an understanding of the people who made history, Dr. Radoslav A. Tsanoff, Rice Institute philosophy professor and president of the Texas Folklore Society, told Texas patriots gathered for the dedication of the San Jacinto Memorial Shaft and Museum of History Friday at the battleground.

He urged that the museum, as it becomes a treasury for authentic and precious relics of the past, find also a place for "the more illusive and intimate treasures of the mind," of recorded folk tale and folk song, of frontier customs and folk ways.

"May our descendants, as they enter these rooms, come to feel vividly, the color and the flavor of that past life in which the foundations of Texas are laid," he said.

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Rich Texas Heritage

"Consider the rich Texan heritage of folk tales, Indian and Mexican legends, cowboy yarns and ballads, stories of treasure hunter, homesteader and desperado, pseudo-historical narratives, alleged family chronicles and pioneer memoirs.

"How little remains duly attested after the historian's work has been competently done! Frontier life on the open plains is revealed as more humdrum in honest toil and less romantic in crime. The Law West of the Pecos is plucked of its most garish feathers. Much pious ancestral vanity is disillusioned; the sublime heroic note in the memoirs is consigned to the limbo of sentimental indulgence.

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Sober Gray Homespun.

"The cloud of critical reserve is spread over the glowing light of imaginative portrayal, and in place of the richly colored brocade of what might have been, we have before us the sober gray homespun of what actually was.

"But surely the real texture of Southwestern life is neither gray homespun nor rich brocade. It is neither, because it is both.

"We shall never quite grasp and understand our actual living Texan unless we keep in our mind the figures which he keeps before his eyes. Treasure pirate he often is in his own eyes, and bronco buster, peerless rider of the open plains and carver of empires.

"This romancing of him is part of his full history. This is not to say that history is as much truth as fiction, but that history is truer with the fiction in it duly interpreted."

Folklore is but "the day dreaming of a people," Doctor Tsanoff maintained, and "we can appreciate better the history of people's actual lives if we attend to the stories of their imagination wherein they stand revealed.

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More Thorough Understanding

"May we say confidently, that the cultivation of interest in folklore and popular traditions is a way of assuring the more thorough understanding of our past.

"A lively consciousness and understanding of past traditions enables us to perceive more clearly where we stand; for our present is rooted in the past. But it also gives us the right perspective for a more balanced view of our future.

"I said that the Texan of our day is still in his own eyes a treasure pirate and a peerless rider of the plains. I mean by this that a certain mental or sentimental temper is apt to survive in social traditions despite radical change in the external conditions of life.

"Build our Texas cities on a metropolitan plan, and pile up skyscrapers on the coastal plain or in the Panhandle as high as those of New York; the business and the social life of Texans will still retain its unique regional flavor.

"And why should we lose their regional flavor, the tang of the Southwest? Our modern life, with its perfected communication of peoples and races, has made each of us a daily spectator of a world-wide pageant, but has smeared us all with a nondescript cosmopolitan varnish, so that we have almost lost our characteristic ways of life and speech and thought.

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Can't Lose Heritage.

"In the folklore and traditions of our past we can recognize and cherish and perpetuate things that are distinctively our own. We really can not afford to lose this precious heritage. We should deliberately seek it out, record and preserve it and keep it alive in our imagination and let it color our thought."

The monument of San Jacinto is a monument of victory, but it also must signalize the progressive achievement of a peaceful and just commonwealth, Doctor Tsanoff added. The commemoration and the dedication of the monument is "a challenge to our Texan ideals today," he said, and "battles still remain to be fought and won in the struggle for social and economic justice, for sane and effective education, for tolerance and fair play, and for richer and more humane living on these Texas plains."

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Same Problems in Mexico.

The same problems confront "our neighbors across the Rio Grande" and the mutual problems can be faced more sanely by both peoples with a better understanding of past experience and tradition, of social temper and its peculiarities.

"Here, also," he concluded, "Texan and Mexican may come to a deeper appreciation of each other's cultures that have so variously influenced each other through years and generations of social contact and interplay.

"On this basis of mutual understanding and the respect and sympathy that it yields, steady productive co-operation between our two nations can be assured.

"Then this great shaft may come to be a monument, not only of a victorious battle, but of a victory more enduring and far more significant, of peace and justice and tolerance and humanity."

Battle Changed World History, Says Wharton

Historian Cites Weak Positions Of Two Generals

H. Press 4/21/39

General Sam Houston's army was not outnumbered two to one at San Jacinto, but by 1200 to 980.

The battle was as if two men had locked themselves in a room to fight to the death, because the Texans had the bayou at their back and the Mexicans a morass.

These and other facts, which have not had wide popular circulation and belief, about the Texas Revolution were given this afternoon by Clarence Wharton, historian and attorney, in a speech at the battleground. He spoke on "The Sixteenth Decisive Battle of World's History."

Major Historic Event

"This shaft marks the scene of one of the major events in human history," Mr. Wharton said. "Here culminated the struggle which had been going on for more than three centuries for the mastery of North America and determined for all time that the country west of the Mississippi to the Pacific should be part of the United States, should be English rather than Spanish or something else."

Explaining how Americans came into Texas, he said after the Adams-DeOnis treaty of 1819 the United States had acknowledged a fixed boundary and that all of the country south and west of the line agreed upon was Spanish, the Spanish authorities felt it would be safe to relax a 200-year exclusion rule and in a guarded way permit colonization.

Danger Was Realized

"Those conspicuous in Mexican affairs realized the danger of allowing people from the States to settle in Texas, but realized the futility of allowing Texas to remain eternally savage and between alternatives relied upon the fidelity and gratitude of these new citizens as a guaranty for their good behavior," Mr. Wharton said.

"But it may well be doubted if gratitude is really a human trait. It would be hard to find anywhere a more kindly attitude of benevolence than that of the Mexican nation toward the first colonists.

"Austin asked for sections of land, Mexico gave him leagues and labors. His colonists came with slaves and though the Mexican law forbade slavery they were permitted to enter and hold them.

"They came Protestant, belonging to many churches. Though the Mexican law tolerated only the Catholic religion, their religion or want of it was winked at. They paid no taxes.

Wrote Own Code

"Austin was permitted to write his own code of laws and the various settlements selected their own officers. They lived with a freedom from government restraint and interference that we well might envy today.

"Three classes of persons came. Some really preferred, devoutly hoped, to remain Mexican citizens and who appreciated the bounties of the Mexican government. Some came with the hope that circumstances would arise that would enable them to transform the country into a province of the United States and who confidently expected that such a situation would arise.

Political Adventurers

"And there were political adventurers who came for the express purpose of achieving this result at the earliest opportunity. Sam Houston was the most conspicuous and successful of this class.

"Those who think the Texas Revolution was a spontaneous uprising of oppressed saints and spotless heroes as many of our historians profess to believe, and those who think it was the dirty scheme of pirate slave traders are equally wrong.

"It is safe to say there would have been no revolution in Texas in 1835, no resistance to the advancement of Santa Anna but for Austin.

"A fact which is often overlooked in our enthusiasm is that the Texans were unequal to this struggle and unable to carry on the war. But for the aid they got from the states they would not have succeeded.

Complexion of Defenders

"Of the 183 men who fell at the Alamo there were only half a dozen Texans and they were Mexicans. Of those who fell at Goliad there were no more than a dozen Texans. In Houston's army at San Jacinto there were about 980 men. Approximately 50 per cent of them had come into Texas in 1835 and 1836, and we know that almost all of these recent arrivals came for the express purpose of participating in the revolution.

"Whole companies in Houston's army had been equipped, mustered and brought to Texas from the Southern states. This obvious aid was well known and was denounced there by friends of Mexico and followed in Mexico by the bloody decree that filibusterers, as they called the volunteers from the United States, should be dealt with as pirates. This was Santa Anna's justification for the massacre at Goliad.

"On April 20 when they faced each other on this field, Houston had 300 more men than Santa Anna. For some strange reason our forces withheld an attack for 24 hours until after the Mexicans received reinforcements. General Cos coming from the Brazos with 500 men was allowed to pass within a mile of the Texas camp with no effort to stop them or cut them off.

"Neither commanding officer showed any military strategy that could be pointed to with enthusiasm. Houston's army camped with its back to the bayou with no chance to escape if it were successfully attacked. Santa Anna camped with a morass behind him and kept no sentinel posted in front. Neither officer could give any excuse for being where he was if he lost the battle.

"There is, however, a justification for Houston's great caution. Travis' bold defiance had led to the slaughter of all his men at Bexar. The rashness of Fannin and Grant and Frank Johnson had wiped out the defenders on the Goliad sector. The last hope of Texas was here at San Jacinto.

Unanswerable Reply

"But one who would criticize Houston's policy in the San Jacinto campaign will always be met with the unanswerable reply that he won.

"One of the strangest incidents of the engagement, almost unbelievable when related, is the great surprise that the Texans executed in their attack.

"The two armies had lain facing each other for two days. Each side was expecting the other to attack. The space between them, a mile, was open and without field glasses sentinels from one camp could see what was going on in the other.

"At 4 o'clock on an April afternoon beneath a cloudless sky the Texans formed a battle line in which 1000 men standing shoulder to shoulder, a line about 1000 yards in length, moved across the open prairie with flags flying and reached to within 400 yards of the Mexican camp before their presence was detected. Santa Anna, although camped with a morass to his back, kept no sentinel posted.

Many Were Asleep

"He seemed to despise the Texas forces. Most of the Mexican officials had lain down for their afternoon siesta. Possibly many of the soldiers, imitating their officers, were asleep. As the advancing army approached the crest of the hill just about where the monument stands today, a buglar who was wandering aimlessly about the Mexican camp saw their approach and blew his bugle.

"There was no battle. It was a rout.

"The Mexican soldier was not a coward. Given an opportunity he would make a good fight. But their equipment was antiquated. For the most part the Mexican soldier was equipped with mere dummy guns."

"Had it (the battle) gone the other way it may well have varied the drama of human affairs. There were powerful influences in the states in those days against the acquisition of Texas or any other territory to the south and west that would become slave territory. He (Santa Anna) would have had aid of the abolitionists to maintain Mexican sovereignty just as this influence was exerted against the annexation of Texas after San Jacinto.

"Although the people of Texas voted all but unanimously for annexation in 1836, the Congress of the United States repeatedly refused to consider the proposition.

"In 1834 it had been abandoned as a poor political project by both the Whig and Democratic parties. President Houston and others in Texas, despairing of annexation, were planning an independent career for the republic.

"Polk (who favored annexation) won by fewer than 40,000 votes. Santa Anna had powerful allies in the United States in 1844.

"The British government proposed to France that they form an alliance to prevent by force, if necessary, the acquisition of Texas. Guizat, the prime minister, committed his government to that course, but the French Chamber refused to support the prime minister and the alliance failed. Mexico had powerful well-wishers in Europe in 1845.

"Then there was an effort in the states to thwart annexation and all the Whig senators, including Daniel Webster, voted against its consummation. Mexico had powerful allies in the United States Senate in 1846.

"Had Santa Anna won, these stubborn forces might have helped Mexico retain its sovereignty. We must always speculate on what might have been, but we do know it was a glorious victory.

"This ostentatious shaft tells the world that theoretically at least we are yet a democracy.

"Poor old cumbersome inefficient corrupt democracy, stumbling along through the years, yet the only hope on earth for human freedom."

Texans Urged to Save Rich Historical Data

Marcel Moraud, Rice Instructor, Warns Against Loss of Documents in Talk at Museum Rites

H. Post 4/21/39

By WORTH GATEWOOD

A warning to Texans to gather and preserve the rich historical recollections of their state before they are scattered and lost forever was given Thursday at San Jacinto battle ground by Marcel Moraud, professor of Romance languages at Rice Institute.

Dr. Moraud, who wears the ribbon of the French Legion of Honor, was the featured speaker at the San Jacinto inn luncheon midway of the first day ceremonies dedicating the San Jacinto Museum of History. Dr. Moraud's subject was "Texas in European History."

His talk was the second of Thursday's dedication program.

Barker Also Speaks

In an earlier address, Eugene C. Barker, professor of American history at the University of Texas, warned against careless interpretation of history and criticized those who base interpretations upon falsification of facts.

Dr. Moraud was introduced by William E. Wrather, president of the Texas State Historical association.

Dr. Moraud said the establishment of the museum was a source of pride to all Texans. It would, he said, revive memories of bright days and temper the souls of the young in the glories of the past.

He sketched briefly the early Spanish and French explorations in Texas and discussed documents available on early Texas history. Great progress in historical research, he said, has been made in the the past 30 years on the Spanish side of documentation.

Collections Praised

"A splendid school of American historians, of which we have very distinguished representatives here today, has discovered, gathered, classified and brought to Texas magnificent collections of Spanish and Mexican documents to which have been added excellent studies on the history of Texas," Dr. Moraud said.

There has been no parallel progress in other European documentation, Dr. Moraud said, and Texas historical information in France, England, Belgium, Italy and Germany is scant.

The barrier of the Spanish language, together with scattered and inaccessible documents, has hampered historians of other nations in their research, Dr. Moraud said. The Spanish, on the other hand, kept complete records of the activities in Texas, he said, making it easier for the historian to compile data.

Papers Are Reviewed

"It took years of work and considerable expense," Dr. Moraud explained, "to gather Spanish and Mexican documents now available at Austin. The same task will have to be accomplished with other European documentation. Let us hope the museum which has just been opened will some day possess collections of French and European documents as rich as the Spanish-American collections already gathered at Austin."

A review of Spanish and French papers of the period, Dr. Moraud said, provides in their history of Texas a two-fold picture. One is that of the decline of the great Spanish empire and the other is that of a dawn—the dawn of the independence of Texas and of a liberal awakening at a time when there seemed to be no room left for liberty in Europe.

Introduced by Hill

Dr. Barker, speaking from the steps of the monument at the morning ceremony, discussed "Three Types of Historical Interpretation."

He was introduced by Col. George A. Hill Jr., president of the San Jacinto Museum of History. Bishop A. Frank Smith gave the invocation.

Praising the memorial museum as a storehouse for an increasing wealth of material for historical writing, Dr. Barker said he hoped to see also some space provided for the more homely relics of pioneer life.

"The hand-forged knives and forks, the gourd cups and dippers, the hewn tables, stools and benches, the frows for riving boards and bullet molds are the artifacts of frontier life," Dr. Barker said.

"Such memorials of the past are veracious historical sources, and can not be easily misconstrued," Dr. Barker said. "Moreover, they invoke the gratitude of the humble and contrite heart for the comforts that we enjoy, reminding us of the courage and hardships of pioneers, the rock whence we were hewn."

Battle Was Decisive

A great event, Dr. Barker said, is commemorated in the monument, the museum and the library.

"Whether or not the battle of San Jacinto was precisely the sixteenth decisive battle of the world," Dr. Barker said, "it was decisive and had momentous consequences. It restored the fleeing Texans to their homes and relieved Texas of a ruthless tyrant."

Discussing honest differences of opinion arising from historical accounts of the Texas revolution, Dr. Barker criticized careless interpretation of facts in general, and warned against contrived interpretation based on falsification. He mentioned accounts of Houston's campaign written by himself and others written by Marquis James, Clarence R. Wharton and Col. Andrew Jackson Houston.

"We were all about equally acquainted with the facts, I think," Dr. Barker said. "The puzzle is to determine what was Houston's plan of campaign; should he have attacked an inferior Mexican force on the Colorado? Why did he move up the Brazos from San Felipe?"

Recalls Hardships

Dr. Barker said these questions brought honest differences of opinion and contrasted them with what he termed deliberate misrepresentation of facts, in other instances, by persons attacking the constitution and the supreme court.

"This style of interpretation is designed to undermine respect for the constitution as a whole by impugning the motives of its makers." Dr. Barker said.

Dr. Barker also hit at another type of historical interpretation, which he said explains complex social and economic conditions by unsound generalizations.

He closed his address with a reminder of the hardships of Texas pioneer life and said a clearer conception of the realities of the frontier might inspire patience with the imperfections of the present.

Post

Early Texas Lives Again

4-21-39

H. Press 4/21/39

San Jacinto Museum Holds Treasure in Historical Documents

Particularly significant on San Jacinto Day are these items in the historical collection in the San Jacinto Museum. Top left, a portrait study of Gen. Sam Houston. Top right, a replica of the flag which the Texans flew during the battle is displayed by Ike Moore, Museum director. Bottom left: a postscript from a letter Sam Houston wrote referring to the fall of the Alamo and the new tactics which the Texas forces must employ. Bottom right, a portrait study of Santa Anna.

SAN JACINTO BATTLE IS WAGED AGAIN IN PICTURE

By ED KILMAN.
Staff Correspondent.

AUSTIN, April 22.—(Sp)—They say there is no man still alive who fought in the battle of San Jacinto—that strange 18-minute conflict of 93 years ago, which freed Texas from Mexican thralldom, and took its place as one of the decisive engagements of world history.

Strictly speaking, perhaps not. However, C. K. Walter of Austin, venerable custodian of the state senate chamber, is very much alive, and he has "fought" the battle of San Jacinto a thousand times. With pointer stick in hand, standing before the massive McArdle painting of the battle, occupying nearly the full height and a fourth of the width of the rear senate wall, he has re-enacted the stirring scene with dramatic vividness that has made it live again for probably 20,000 capitol visitors during the last three years.

History classes are frequently brought to the upper house chamber to view the magnificent picture and to hear Mr. Walter's remarkable animated lecture on it. He knows by name and deed 'most every prominent figure among the hundreds portrayed on the huge canvas. He knows 'most everything that has been written in the way of Texas history, and a lot more that has not been written.

Aids Vivid Picture.

First approaching the work, Mr. Walter gives his audience a sweeping conception of its general majesty. They see General Sam Houston, hero of the Texas revolution, leading his buckskin garbed warriors of the frontier in hand-to-hand struggle with the pompously uniformed followers of Santa Anna. They witness the infinite detail of faces and figures that intimate why it required seven years to complete the picture. They behold the flaming vortex of battle in the foreground, and the masses of fleeing Mexicans in the distance, pursued by the Americans into the San Jacinto river, which gleams through the spring verdancy like a silver ribbon.

Then, proceeding from the general to the particular, pointing out the various characters and recounting their parts in the engagement, the relator begins to pace to and fro and gesture; his voice and movements become tense; his words quicken and snap like the crackle of shellfire. All this accompaniment, added to the vividness of the painting itself, fairly makes the beholder feel that he is in the thick of it.

"Senator Charles Culberson once stood beforte this great painting," he remarks, "and said it seemed to him that this smoke was actually moving, and that he could hear the roar of battle, the shouts of the victors, 'Remember the Alamo!' 'Remember Goliad!' and the Texans' battle song, 'Will You Come to the Bower.'

Raising Dust Cloud.

"A lady, looking at the picture, once said to me, 'Why isn't there any smoke over there on the other side of the battlefield, where the Mexicans are?' I told her the Mexicans weren't raising smoke; they were raising dust."

At the outset of the picturesque recitation, the lecturer extols the painting, which was completed by J. H. McArdle in 1898. It and a similar picture of the battle of the Alamo have hung in the senate chamber for many years. The fortieth legislature purchased the two works from McArdle's heirs for $25,000.

"There is less of imagination portrayed in this picture than in any other battle painting in the world," asserts the speaker. "There is a reason. This artist was down in the battlefield while quite a number of those who participated were still alive. They gave him full bill of particulars, and you find them all here portrayed, true to life."

It's difficult to keep up with Mr. Walter, taking notes, after he gets warmed up. The following is a stab at his exposition of the battle painting, minus many of his entertaining expressions, and all of his dramatic delivery:

"General Sam Houston said the battle opened at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Eighteen minutes later all resistance was over, but pursuit of the Mexicans was continued until twilight. The Mexicans not kill or wounded were followed and run down.

Points Out Houston.

"Here (pointing with the stick), is General Houston, hat in one hand and saber in the other. He was 43 years of age on the second day of the preceding March. His horse was shot from under him, and he was wounded in the ankle—so severely that when he finished negotiating with General Santa Anna, he went to New Orleans for surgical treatment; leaving General Rusk in command of the Texas army.

"The young man leading the horse, here, was a member of General Houston's staff, named Sandy Horton. Seeing the general's horse had fallen, he dismounts and offers his horse to Houston.

"A mule was there a-rearing—you see him. The mule escaped injury. The Texans were not shooting at mules.

"General Santa Anna's headquarters was right here next to the timber. You see the general's tent there, and the Mexican flag flying over it. There was a Mexican colonel trying to mount a horse, and the horse was frantic. He was captured. You see the horse and the colonel.

"This is General Santa Anna, on his horse. You can see what he is doing—everlastingly pulling for the tall timber; running while the running is good. There he is, with his beautiful blue uniform, trimmed in

THE SAN JACINTO MONUMENT

The monument stands like a candle
in the night.
The lights around it make every-
thing bright.
When at night I sit gazing at the
sky,
My thought wander on the days
gone by.
But when I see the monument so
gay,
It always drives my troubles away.
And when I sit gazing in a night so
damp,
I wonder if in it there is a poor
tramp.
So when my thoughts are sorrowful
and sad,
I look at the monument and it
makes me glad.

H.chr. 5/27/39

SHERMAN FRICKS,
Deer Park, Texas.

Tulsa Man Is 100,000th Visitor at Monument

B. E. Carlton, 67-year-old dairyman of Tulsa, Okla., received a souvenir replica of the San Jacinto memorial shaft Sunday when he was the 100,000th visitor to register at the monument and museum since it was opened to the public on April 20. Director Ike Moore is shown handing the gift to Mr. Carlton. At right, in checked dress, is Mrs. Carlton. They are on vacation and came up from Galveston to see the monument.

100,000TH VISITOR SEES MONUMENT

H. Chr. —— 7/24/39

Registration Book Open Just 94 Days; People Have Come to Battleground From Many Lands.

The 100,000th visitor to the San Jacinto Monument and Museum since it opened on April 20, was registered at the Memorial Building Sunday, it was announced Monday by Director Ike Moore. The memorial has been open to the public just 94 days.

"The attendance, an average of more than 1000 visitors daily, is gratifying," said Mr. Moore.

The museum and the elevator to the top of the shaft are open on week days from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The floodlights on the shaft will be turned on each Saturday and Sunday from dark until 10 p.m., starting this week.

One hundred and sixty school groups visited the memorial during May and the early part of June. Many of the groups came from points 500 miles away or farther. Eleven groups came from Oklahoma and Kansas.

During the coming school year the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, the patriotic and educational organization that has charge of the monument and museum, will conduct an organized campaign to get every school in Texas to make a trip to the memorial.

The official register kept by the museum shows that visitors have come from every state in the Union and from the Canadian states of Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec; from Mexico, Newfoundland, the West Indies, British West Indies, Cuba, Netherlands West Indies, the Canal Zone, Honduras, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, England, Scotland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Italy, Norway, Roumania, Sweden, China, Dutch East Indies, Japan, Palestine, Australia, New Zealand and Hawaii.

An analysis of the register for a typical week showed approximately 39 per cent were from Houston and Harris County, 45 per cent from the rest of Texas, 15 per cent from other states and 1 per cent from foreign countries.

Colonial Dames Will Dedicate Museum Plaque

Post 11-24-39

The Colonial Dames of America, Chapter 8, will dedicate and present a bronze plaque commemorating the Texas Centennial at 3 p. m. Saturday at the museum of history at San Jacinto Battle Grounds.

The ceremony will complete a project begun four years ago, with Mrs. Eugene Truett Harris as chairman and Mesdames Robert Ring, E. J. Cherault, R. B. Browder and P. S. Tilson as committee members.

The plaque, completed two years ago, is the work of Julian Muensch, Houston artist. H. E. Maddox, architect, collaborated in the design. It is handwrought bronze, 23½ by 36½ inches, completed two years ago at a cost of $500.

The inscription reads "To the memory of the heroic army of San Jacinto this tablet is erected by the Colonial Dames of America, Chapter VIII of Texas."

The design shows one equestrienne figure and seven walking figures, all bareheaded, wearing buckskin suits and carrying rifles. The plaque is outlined with the conventional oak leaf pattern with seven stars and the Colonial Dames insigna in the border.

Mrs. Harris will direct the program and Mrs. T. D. Rountree of Rockdale, state president of the Colonial Dames, will present the gift. Ike Moore, director of the museum, will receive the plaque in behalf of the officers and directors of the San Jacinto Museum of History association.

The ceremony will follow the semi-annual meeting and luncheon of the Colonial Dames at 10:30 a. m. Saturday at the Plaza hotel. Miss Sadie McLean, 2017 Colquitt, is taking luncheon reservations at Lehigh 6642.

HOUSTON WOMAN PRESENTS SAN JACINTO MEMORIAL POEM TO JESSE H. JONES

H. Chr. 11/30/39

A special copy of her poem on the San Jacinto Battle Memorial was presented this week to Jesse H. Jones, federal loan administrator, by Mrs. May Myers Callaway of Houston, in appreciation of Mr. Jones' interest in the famous monument.

Mrs. Callaway's poem is one of the Texas history exhibits in the museum in the base of the monument, and was accepted for exhibit there by Lou W. Kemp, Texas historian, and Ike Moore, curator of the museum.

"I gave it to Mr. Jones, knowing his great love for the San Jacinto monument, and in appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the monument," Mrs. Callaway said.

Mrs. Callaway is a native of DeWitt County, and is descended from a family which came to Texas with Stephen F. Austin's first group of colonists. She is a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Houston Penwomen.

She has lived in Texas all her life, and is the widow of Rev. James A. Callaway, well-known Methodist minister.

San Jacinto Monument.

Emblem of strength and grandeur,
Reaching to meet the sky;
Telling the world of glory,
As about you heroes lie.

Star topped shaft so stately,
That shadows hallowed ground,
And shines above the skyline
Among oaks long renowned.

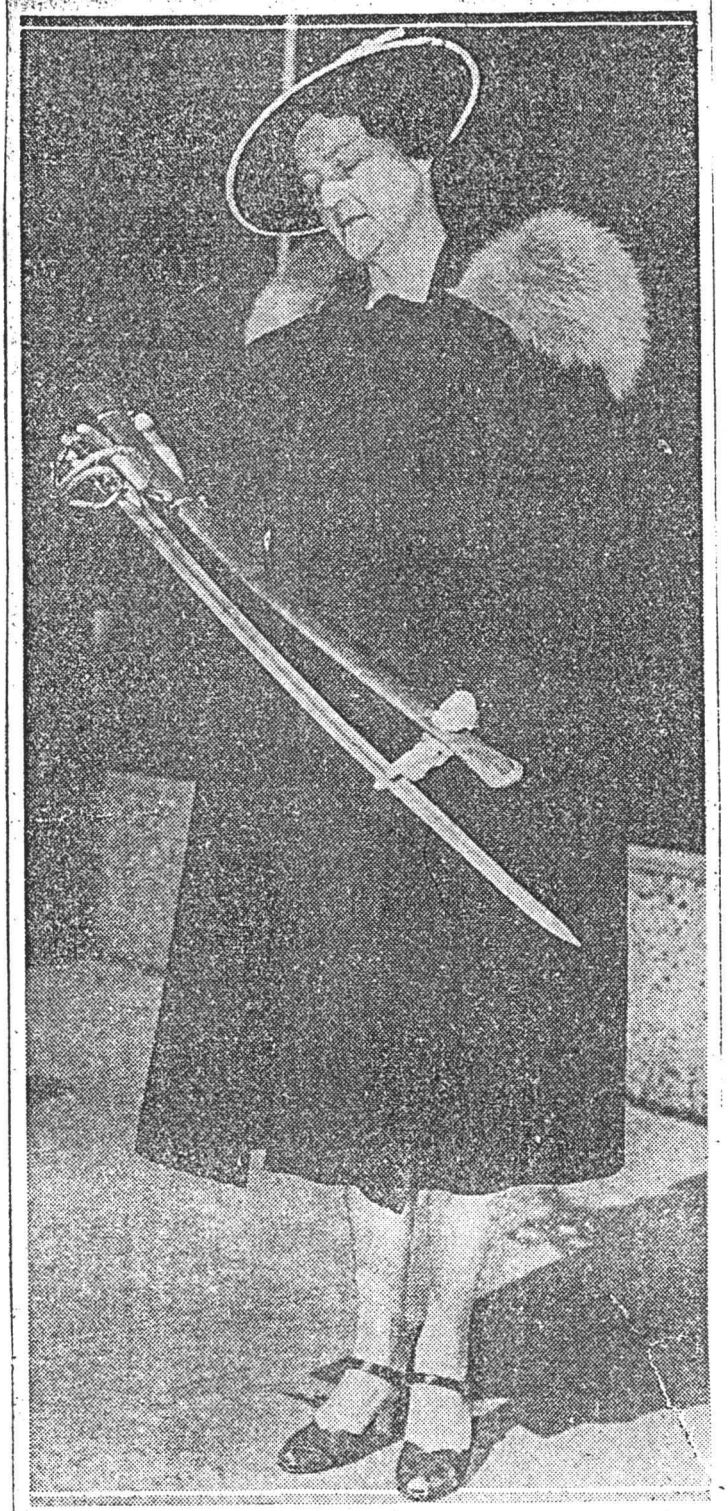
Your carvings impart charm
That lifts our hearts on high.
Our souls drink deep of quiet peace
As we think of years gone by.

Mirrored in near by waters,
A challenge to the art of Greece,
With your sacred writings,
We behold the masterpiece.

Builded to honor our heroes,
Builded to guide our state,
Proclaiming love and liberty,
And forever drive out hate.

May peace flow like a river
O'er nature's jeweled sod,
And majestic splendor endure
As we lift our hearts to God.

39 San Jacinto Sword Presented



Mrs. Jeanne Sully Smyth, New Orleans, presented the San Jacinto Museum of History Thursday with a saber which was captured by her great-uncle, Theodoric Armstead Sully, in the Battle of San Jacinto. She said that recently her father, Thomas Sully, died at the age of 83 and that he desired that the saber be given to the museum. Mrs. Smyth said that the saber was believed by her family to have belonged to Santa Anna. Her father remembered that a Mexican uniform had been taken with the saber and he believed that they were the belongings of Santa Anna, whom history records attempted to escape by wearing the garments of a woman. The saber bears the coat of arms of Mexico. Mrs. Smyth is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Duggan, 304 Bremond, during her visit in Houston.

San Jacinto Victory Cleared Way For United States' March to Pacific

ON San Jacinto field, April 21, 1836, Texas achieved her independence, the forces under Sam Houston defeating those under Santa Anna, official head of Mexico.

At that time Missouri was the farthest west of the organized States of the Union.

What was known as the Indian country, now the Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma, lay to the west.

All the vast region now constituting Washington, Oregon, California, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho and Colorado was outside the control of the United States of America, save an unsupported claim as to Oregon.

Texas ran as far south as Brownsville, and as far north as Denver or thereabouts.

Texas became a member of the American Union in 1845. In 1846 the claim of the United States to the Oregon territory was settled by treaty with Great Britain, and out of that territory has been created the States of Washington and Oregon.

The acquisition of the Oregon domain gave the United States access to the Pacific ocean.

In 1848 New Mexico and California were ceded to the United States by Mexico, an outcome of the battle of San Jacinto.

In 1850 Texas ceded 123,784 square miles of her northern territory, now portions of Kansas and Colorado, to the United States for the sum of $10,000,000, a territory rich in minerals beyond all telling.

A part of this ceded territory is now in New Mexico.

What is known as the Gadsden Purchase was made in 1853, thus settling a dispute as to the line between New Mexico and Old Mexico.

In 1861 the territory of Colorado was formed from the eastern part of Utah, western part of Nebraska, and northern part of New Mexico, thus participating in what occurred on the field of San Jacinto that day in April, 1836.

Alaska and Hawaii are progeny of the battle of San Jacinto.

Texas is the one part of the American Union that achieved its independence singly and alone, becoming a nation recognized by the United States and the powers of Europe, maintaining her position for nine years and voluntarily taking a place in the sisterhood of States.

It is a glorious record, without stain or blemish, made possible by the fighting spirit of Sam Houston and his men in the afternoon of April 21, 1836.

City Will Get 2-Day Holiday For San Jacinto

H. Post 4/21/40

3 Former Governors To Participate in Program at Shaft On Battle Ground

The one hundred and fourth anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto will be observed with a two-day holiday.

Sunday afternoon the San Jacinto chapter of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas will hold its annual observance at the base of the towering monument at the tle ground.

roclaimed by O'Daniel

Three former governors of Texas —Pat M. Neff, W. P. Hobby and Ross Sterling—will take part in this year's program.

Monday has been proclaimed a legal holiday by Governor W. Lee O'Daniel, and all state, county and city offices and most business houses will be closed all day.

The post office will have a half holiday, Postmaster John Dunlop said. All windows at the main post office and substations will close at noon. There will be two morning business deliveries of mail, and one residential delivery. Collection service will be on the holiday schedule.

At the battle ground observance, former Governor Neff, now president of Baylor university, will make the principal address. He will be introduced by former Governor Hobby. Former Governer Sterling will be an honor guest.

Judge Tarver to Speak

Judge W. F. Tarver, president of the state organization of the Sons of the Republic, will bring the greetings of the state group, and Mrs. Frederick Schenkenberg, state president of the D. R. T., will speak in behalf of her organization. Mrs. C. F. Coleman, president of San Jacinto chapter, will reply for the chapter and introduce special guests.

H. E. Slaymaker, British consul for Houston, will be a speaker. The invocation will be given by Rev. J. H. H. Ellis, chaplain of the S. R. T. Music will be furnished by the first band of Houston schools, led by Victor Alessandro, and Mrs. Everett R. McLean.

A highlight of the program will be the presentation of gold medals to the winners of the annual essay contest. This year's winners are Rachel Marshall of Sam Houston high school and Perrin White of Albert Sidney Johnston junior high school.

Sundial to Be Dedicated

After the benediction by Rev. T. P. O'Rourke, pastor of St. Anne's church, the assembly will march to the east side of the battle ground, where the sundial erected by the D. R. T. will be formally dedicated.

The sun dial, honoring the nine men who fell at the battle of San Jacinto, is made of bronze and is the work of Julian Muench. It measures 25 feet in circumference and is placed on a granite base at the west end of the major axis leading up to the shaft.

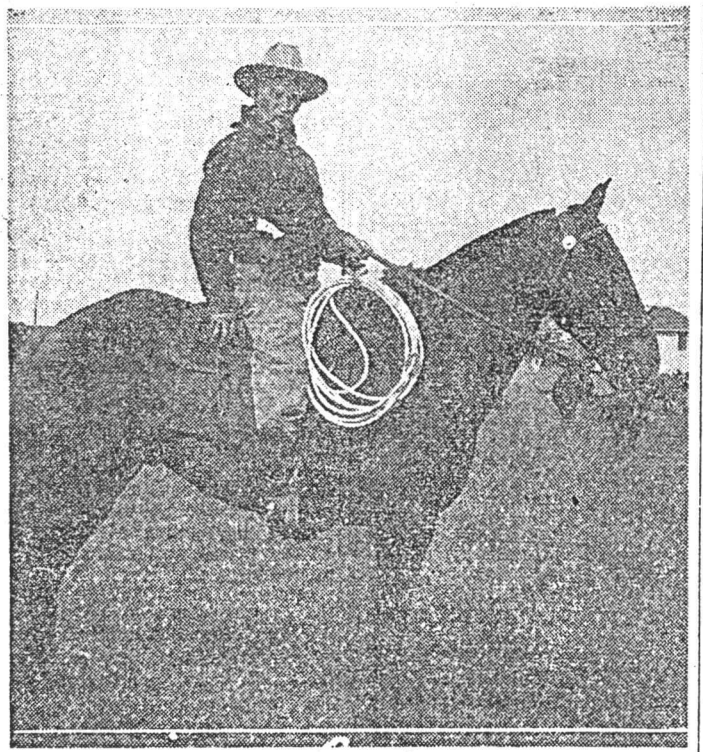
Charles I. Francis, Houston attorney, will make the presentation speech. The sun dial will be presented by Mrs. Coleman for the Daughters and will be accepted for the state by Gen. Harry Knox, chairman of the state board of control.

C. E. Gilbert Jr., president of San Jacinto chapter of the S. R. T., will preside at the general observance. Mrs. Norma Louise Barnett, president of San Jacinto chapter of the D. R. T., will preside at the sun dial dedication.

Stirrup Used in 1000-Mile Ride By Brenham Man Given Museum

A. Chr. 4/21/40

Pony Express Rider on Horse



Here is Hiram G. Craig of Brenham on his horse. Mr. Craig rode 1000 miles from Houston to Cross Plains and return in 1934 to be at the bedside of his sister. He is giving the stirrup he used on the ride to San Jacinto Battleground Association. He was 80 at the time of the ride.

Trail Driver Makes Gift to San Jacinto Association.

Special to The Chronicle.

Brenham, April 20.—A stirrup used in his 1000-mile "headed for the last roundup" ride from Houston to Cross Plains, Texas, and return, in 1934, will be presented to the San Jacinto Battleground Association today by Hiram G. Craig, 85, of Brenham.

Mr. Craig, a member of the Trail Drivers of Texas, made the ride at the age of 80. Cross Plains is in Callahan County, 30 miles from Coleman.

Mr. Craig had a part in the cattle business of early Texas and tells many stories of early days.

◇ ◇ ◇

Father Knew Houston.

His father, John Craig, and Gen. Sam Houston grew up together in Tennessee. In 1850 his father and mother moved to Texas, settling at Sand Town, Washington County. His father was a teamster, stockman and farmer and drove wagons to Brownsville and Eagle Pass.

The elder Craig hauled cotton to the border and on his return trips brought salt from the salt lake on the King Ranch. This salt sold at that time for $5 a hundred pounds. He also played a large part in running the blockade during the civil war.

Hiram Craig helped spin thread and make clothes for his family during the civil war. He recalls two stage coach lines running through Brenham, one to San Antonio and one to Austin.

He also recalls the war express riders, two negro boys named Dan and Grand Love. The two rode from Sand Town to Brenham and Evergreen, on the old Houston-Austin Road, carrying mail, during the civil war.

Hiram Craig helped his father haul freight from Bellville to Brenham in the sixties. He later worked for George West at Sweet Home, Texas, and for Andrew and Bob Nation at Oakville, in Live Oak County.

◇ ◇ ◇

Mrs. Boyd's Father.

He was married in 1881 to Miss Johanna Awailt of Burton. He had two children, Mrs. Ewing Boyd of Houston, wife of Judge Boyd, and Walter A. Craig, who died in 1921.

At the age of 70, Mr. Craig rode the pony express from Galveston to San Antonio in five days. He won first prize for best time in a contest with Thad Reese of Floresville, who rode from Dallas to San Antonio in five days.

He rode 505 miles in 74 hours in 1934, at the age of 80, when he went from Houston to Cross Plains to be at the bedside of his sister, Mrs. Nancy Lucinda Merryman of Cross Plains.

The mate to the stirrup he is giving to the San Jacinto Battleground Association was presented to the Old Trail Drivers of Texas. It has been placed in the Memorial Hall at Brackenridge Park, San Antonio.

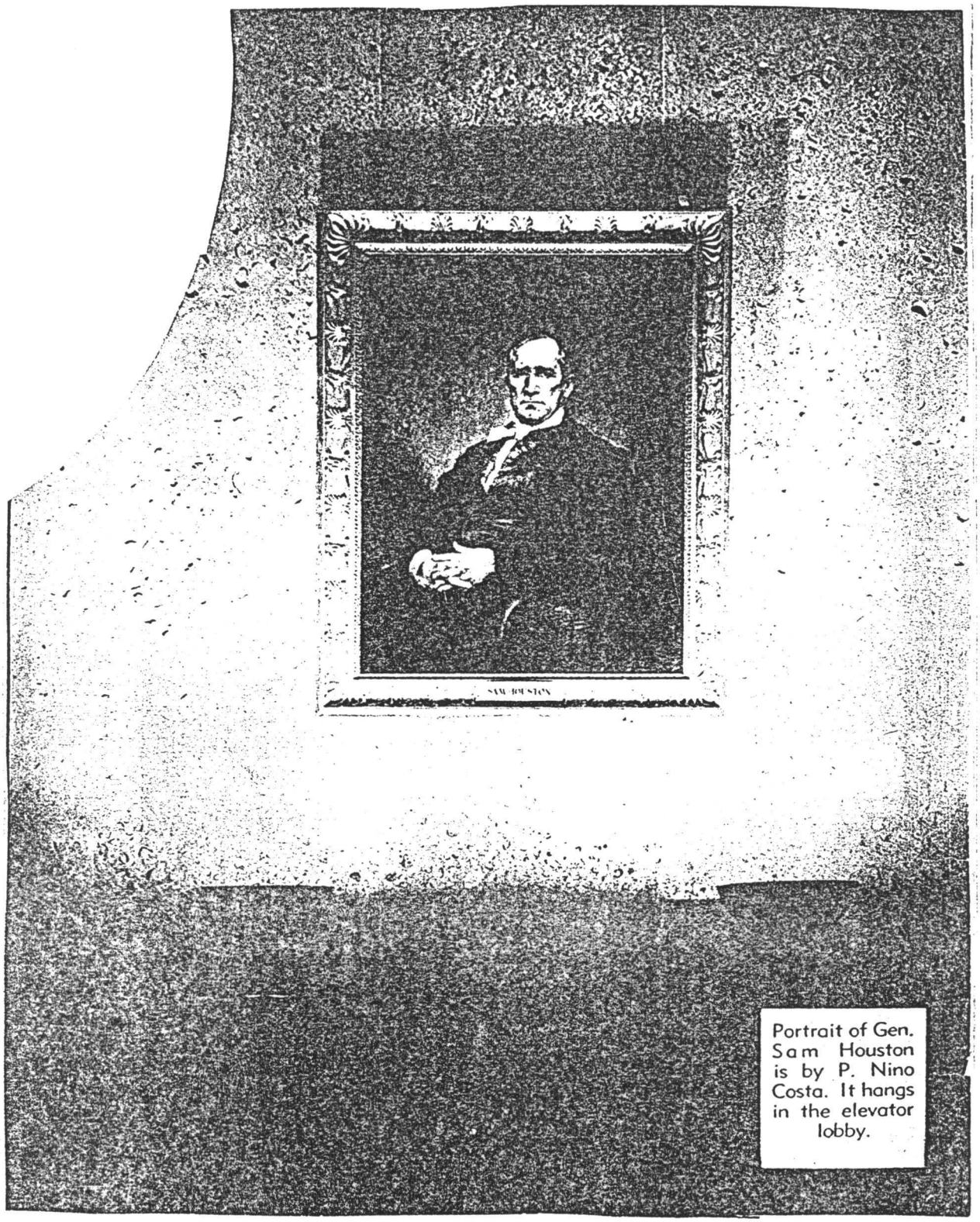
SAN JACINTO
After 104 Years

April 21, 1836—The Battle
April 21, 1940—An Anniversary

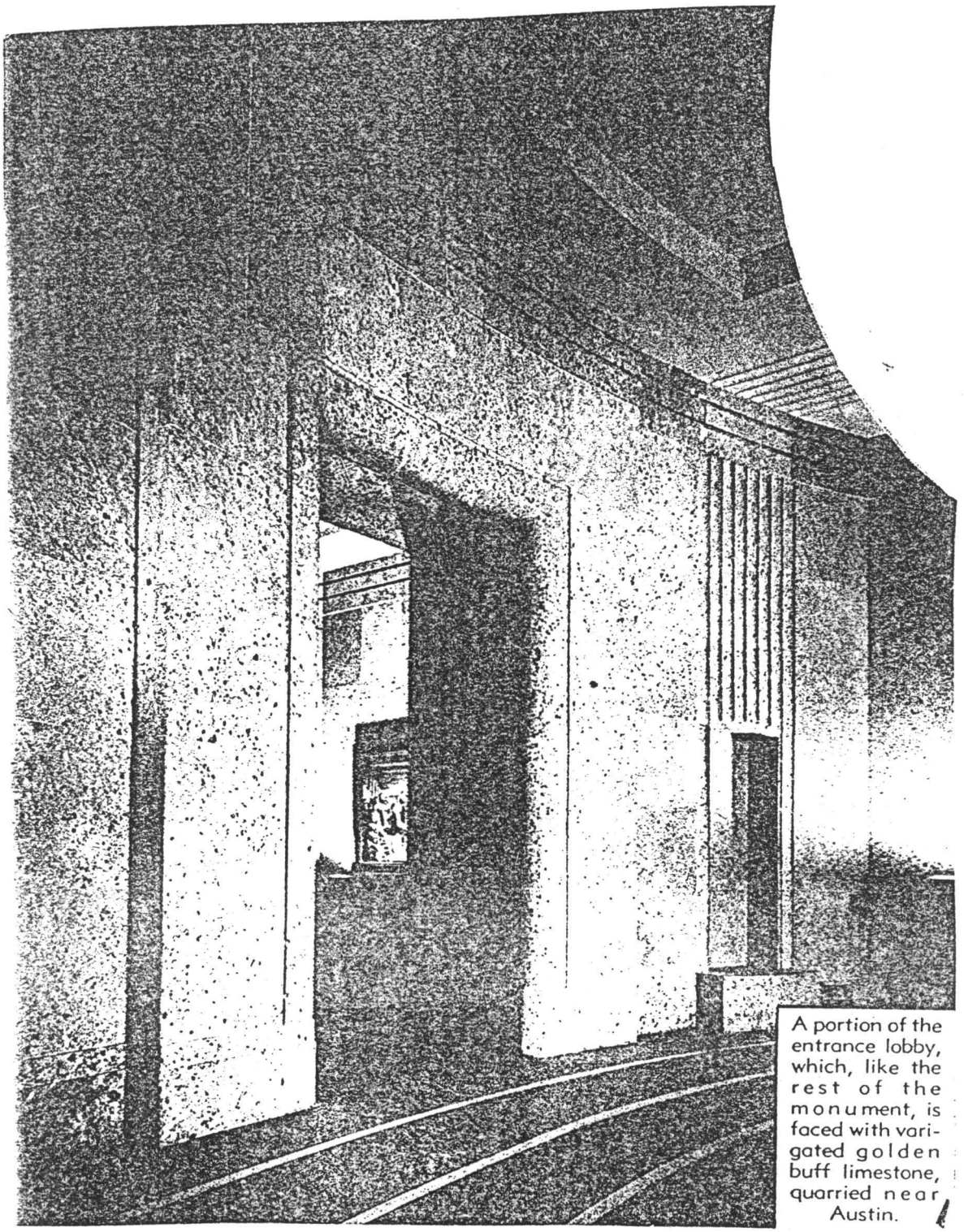
TEXAS today is celebrating the 104th anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto, where independence was won from Mexico. On this day, more than a century ago, the battleground, about 20 miles from Houston, rang with the shouts of 800 Texans to "Remember the Alamo" and "Remember Goliad" as they advanced into battle with a Mexican army of 1600 under Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. He had come from beyond the Rio Grande to conquer Texans who had revolted against the Mexican dictator's misrule. So savage was the onslaught of the Texans under Gen. Sam Houston that within the space of minutes the Mexicans had been routed. Photos by Jess Gibson, staff photographer.

Gunsmith shop at Washington-on-the-Brazos, where the declaration of independence of Texas from the rule of Mexico was declared March 2, 1836. It is one of several dicramas housed in the museum within the base of the monument.

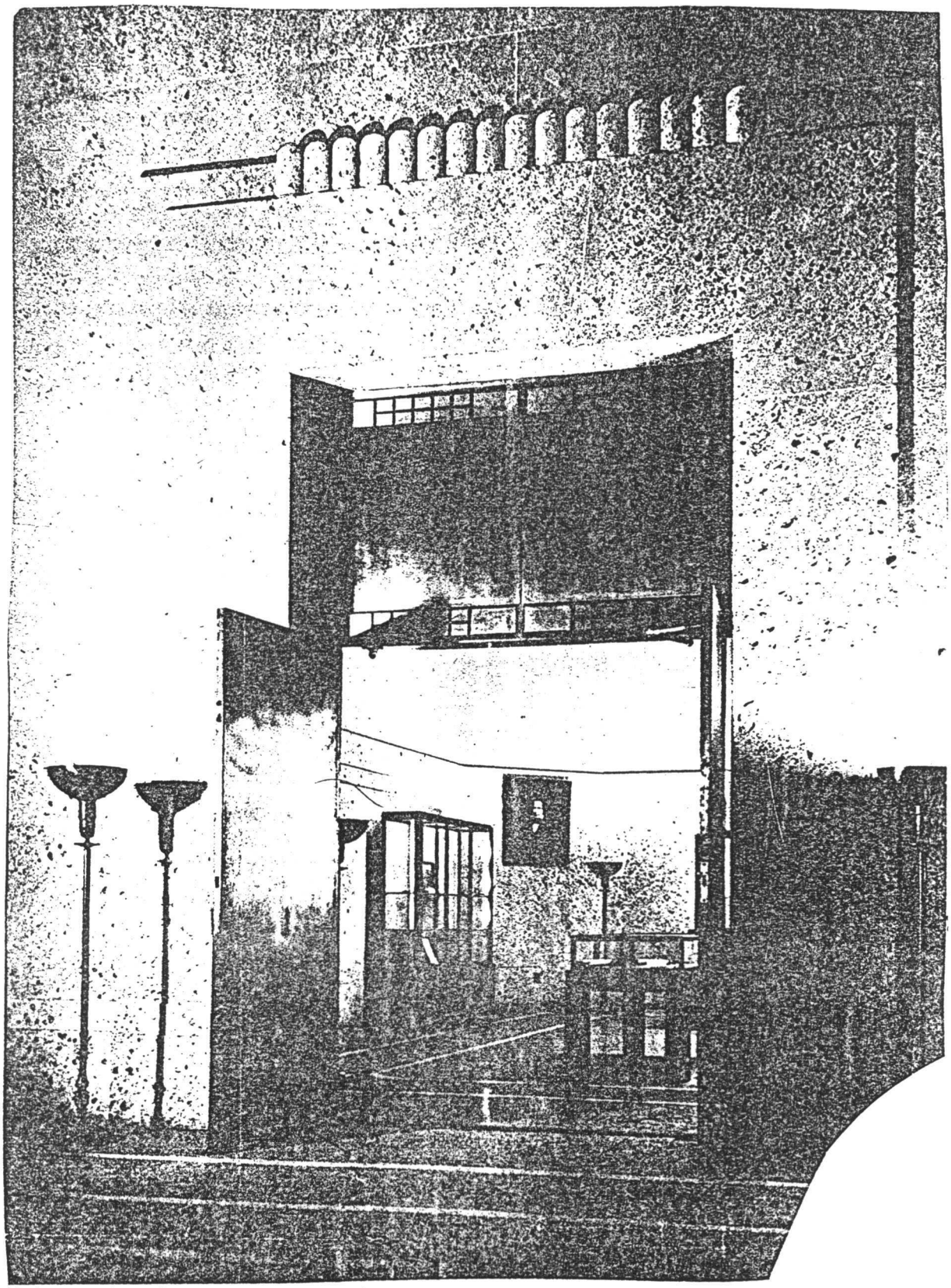
he Pioneers," one of the relief panels at the base of the shaft of San Jacinto monument done by Mr. McVey in 1937.



Portrait of Gen. Sam Houston is by P. Nino Costa. It hangs in the elevator lobby.



A portion of the entrance lobby, which, like the rest of the monument, is faced with variegated golden buff limestone, quarried near Austin.



A painting of Mirabeau B. Lamar, second president of the Republic of Texas and founder of the Texas public school system, guards the entrance to the Anglo-American room and looks down on museum exhibits depicting the heroic past of Texas, in which he played so notable a part.

WHEN TEXANS HONORED MEN WHO WON THEM THEIR INDEPENDENCE

In the top left picture are, left to right, Mrs. Madge W. Hearne, Mrs. Hally Bryan Perry, Mrs. Norma Louise Barnett and Mrs. C. P. Coleman, who participated in the dedication ceremonies of the sundial. The three men at the top are, left to right, H. E. Slaymaker, British consul in Houston, former Governor Pat Neff, president of Baylor university, Gen. Andrew Jackson Houston, son of Sam Houston, all of whom spoke at the celebration. Seated in the front row in the bottom picture are, left to right, Rev. J. H. Ellis, chaplain of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, Mr. Neff, former Governor W. P. Hobby, former Governor Ross Sterling and former Lieutenant Governor Walter Woodul.

PLAQUE UNVEILING SET WEDNESDAY AT BATTLEGROUND

H. Chr. — 4/23/40

A plaque given by Frank G. Huntress, publisher of the San Antonio Express and Evening News, and erected by the Texas Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy, in memory of the men who served in the Confederate army and with Gen. Sam Houston at San Jacinto will be unveiled Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at the San Jacinto Battleground.

The plaque on a pink granite base under a Magnolia tree, is in the form of a scroll. It depicts the seal and flag of the Confederacy and lists the names of 30 men known to have served in both the battle which won Texas freedom from Mexico and in the Confederate army.

Mrs. Ed S. Dowda of Abilene, president of the Texas division of the U. D. C., will make the presentation address and W. E. Kendall of Houston will be guest speaker. A luncheon at San Jacinto Inn, with Mrs. I. B. McFarland of Houston as toastmistress, will follow the ceremony.

A large delegation is expected from San Antonio, headed by Mrs. J. K. Beretta, chairman of the plaque general committee.

Mrs. Earl Maughmer of Houston is chairman for local arrangements, assisted by Mrs. Robert Youngblood. Reservations for the luncheon will close Wednesday morning.

H. Press 12/6/40

Sun and Shade

This column, dedicated to the memory of the late Hamilton O'Malley, is open to all Texas writers. Contributions must be original. No remuneration is offered. No manuscript will be returned.—The Editor.

THE SAN JACINTO MONUMENT

A creamy slim monument, crowned with a star
Reflected full length in a pool;
A brilliant example outlined in the sky
Of God using man as His tool.

Dignified shaft, loved by all true native sons,
Symbolic of freedom we've won;
In memory of heroes who died in that war
Our tribute to deeds which they've done.

Tall, serene, sentinel, watching o'er all
You're seen and admired from afar
Proudly, aloofly looking down at the world
Nothing your calm beauty can mar.

—Patricia Hampton Noland.

Gun Used in Battle Of San Jacinto To Be Given to Museum

H2hr. 4/16/41

One of the original muskets used in the Battle of San Jacinto will be presented to the San Jacinto Museum on San Jacinto Day by Rev. Joe Z. Tower, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Beaumont.

"The gun is one of the first muskets made by the Springfield Company of Springfield, Mass., and with its historical value will be an excellent addition to the collection of guns at the museum," C. E. Gilbert, secretary of the San Jacinto Chapter of the Sons of the Texas Revolution, said.

Mr. Gilbert also announced that M. C. Gonzales of San Antonio, executive secretary of the League of United Latin-American Citizens, has been invited to place a wreath on the monument during the ceremony to be held at San Jacinto Monument Monday. Members of the league are mostly descendants of Mexicans who fought on the side of Texas in its battle for independence.

mortal Name of Houston Acclaimed by O'Daniel in San Jacinto Talk

of Governor O'Daniel's *Sacred Heritage* 2,
at San Jacinto Monday:
. Chairman, Sons and Daughof the Texas Revolution, dished guests, ladies and gen-
en:

The lessons of the past loom ge in our thinking as we face the oblems of the new day. The con-ibution of the centuries to our present life and mode of living is a notable one indeed. Too often, when we flash on the screen of our mind the picture of a hundred years ago and then change it quickly to the picture of today, we are tempted to marvel at our advanced state in contrast to the primitive simplicity of those days gone by, and to commend ourselves too highly for bringing about this change. For in studying the intervening pages of history, we see that our growth has not been of a mushroom variety. We see that our progress has been step by step, and that the superstructure which now towers so high has been built—stone upon stone—timber upon timber—through the ages, and that into the building of that structure of our present society has gone not only the genius of what we might want to term our own super-talent, but also the intelligence, the strength, the courage of mind, body, and soul of men who are no more. . . .

"God grant that we may cling to these eternal verities which come as our sacred heritage of the past; that—faced with the fury of storms which now beset us—we may chart our course by the compass that has been tried and found true by those who captained our ships on yet another voyage.

"On April 21, 1836—five years more than a century ago—on this very spot; yes, at this very hour—the destiny of the land called Texas hung precariously in the balance. How that destiny was achieved; how valorous men—out-numbered, without rations and adequate arms—defeated a dictator and his invading hordes—is a story which you know full well. 'The sixteenth most decisive victory in the history of the world' it has been called, a victory starting a chain of events which brought to these United States a third of its present area; a victory which laid the groundwork for the change in sovereignty of nearly a million square miles; and, more important than all this, a victory which decided that our people should be free—free to work, free to worship, free to build here a new promised land that would contribute to the happiness and well-being of mankind.

"I could speak appropriately today of the leader of our forces at the battle of San Jacinto. I could mention the methods by which he and his brave men won victory on this very field. We could recount the events of his earlier life which contributed to the military genius for which he was renowned—of his campaign with Andrew Jackson in the war of 1812 and the brilliance of his achievement then for the service of his country. Or we could examine the heritage which was his; the staunch record of his father, a soldier in the Revolutionary War; of earlier ancestors in Scotland who fought with John Knox for 'God and Country.'

* * *

A Great Leader

"What a record was his as a statesman, a leader in the civil life of every community in which he dwelled! I know of no other character in our state or national life who served as governor of two different states, as a representative in the Congress from two different states, as one of the first two United States senators from his newly-annexed state, as the president of an

independent republic, or who whittled a pine stick on the floor of the United States Senate. (In these mad days—in the rush and tumble and turmoil of our present life—how remarkably pleasant it would be, how clarifying to our befuddled minds, if we could all sit down 'for a spell' and do some good old-fashioned whittling like Sam Houston did in the days of old!)

"The incidents in the career of General Sam Houston are pleasant thoughts upon which to dwell, interesting circumstances to recall. But I pass on from these considerations, remembering the simple but prophetic comment of Andrew Jackson: 'The world will take care of Houston's fame.'

"I am thinking today not so much of the details of San Jacinto's victory, nor of the achievements of Sam Houston as orator, statesman, and leader. I am searching rather for the reason for his phenomenal success, the cause of his courage, the guiding principles which led him to such great fame.

"In an obscure document, penned by his hand on October 8, 1835, I think I have discovered that creed. You will remember that he was then commander of the Department of Nacogdoches. His first act in that capacity was to issue a general order to the forces at his command. While it was in the form of a military order, it seems to me that that message, and particularly its conclusion, was an address to the people of Texas, an expression of the sentiments of heart of one of their number, a promise of freedom to come, a consecration to duty, a call for high courage from all men of goodwill.

* * *

Sincere in Tone

"It was so striking and significant in its content, so sincere in its tone, that I know it must have brought a warm, a fervent, and a zealous response from those whom he had been chosen to lead.

"Concluding that order, General Houston said:

"'The morning of glory is dawning upon us. The work of liberty has begun. Our actions are to become a part of the history of mankind. Patriotic millions will sympathize in our struggles, while nations will admire our achievements. We must be united—subordinate to the laws and authorities which we avow, and freedom will not withold the seal of her approbation. Rally around the standard of the constitution, entrench your rights with noble resolution, and defend them with heroic manliness. Let your valor proclaim to the world that liberty is your birthright. We cannot be conquered by all the arts of anarchy and despotism combined. In heaven and valorous hearts we repose our confidence. Our only ambition is the attainment of national liberty—the freedom of religious opinion and just laws. To acquire these blessings, we solemnly pledge our person, our property, and our lives. Union and courage can achieve everything, while reason combined with intelligence can regulate all things necessary to human happiness.'

"Reading those inspired words, we find, I think, the background, the basis, the fundamental reason for Houston's achievement. And we find there further, it seems to me, a message so prophetic, a creed so lasting, a statment so significant to our present day that it might well have been written on April 21, 1941, instead of more than a hundred years ago. Listen to his solemn admonition; hear his heroic words; consider the soundness of his expressed sentiments—and you will thrill, as I have thrilled, to the challenge of this clarion call of a century ago.

"'The morning of glory is dawning upon us.' Surely it was dawning then, and surely is our sun still rising in the eastern sky of hope. Our state is rich in resources. Our land of Texas—170,000,000 acres in extent—can count among its cherished advantages all those things which man requires—food for his sustenance; shelter for his comfort; bountiful raw materials to be shaped into other things by his handiwork and skill, or to be molded and fashioned by mighty machines; resources of energy at his every command. Here are playgrounds for his pleasure; scenes of beauty for his inspiration; an empire for his conquest.

"Our factories are humming; our soil produces new wealth; our people are working and happy. 'The morning of glory' is surely here.

* * *

Part of History

"'Our actions are to become a part of the history of mankind.' Sam Houston spoke well. The history of Texas as a republic, as a state—is known throughout the world. The name of Texas—said to mean 'friendship'—is associated also with thoughts of fortune, of force and vigor, and of great faith. Our actions—the actions of Texans of a hundred years—have become indeed a part of the history of mankind and have opened avenues for new opportunity, further progress, and high achievement.

"'We must be united—subordinate to the laws and authorities which we avow, and freedom will not withhold the seal of her approbation.' That is Sam Houston speaking, my friends; Sam Houston speaking to his soldiers, to those about him; Sam Houston speaking to generations yet unborn. . . .

"I decline, my friends, to accept the viewpoint that there is an irreconcilable conflict between any arbitrary group of our people. I refuse to recognize any chasm between Americans that cannot be spanned by those basic virtues of honesty, integrity, and fair play—virtues which are characteristic, I think, of the vast majority of 130 million who constitute the citizenry of the United States of America. I believe that, whatever the diversity of our views, we do have a common ground on which we can stand in peace and contentment; we do have the ties of a heroic past which should bind us closely together; we do have the promise of a rich and useful future which should inspire us to go forward in fellowship and good will.

"'We cannot be conquered by all the arts of anarchy or despotism.' Who is that speaking? Is it the voice of our great President and leader in today's crisis—telling us to be of stout heart and good cheer? Is it the pledge of 1941? No, my friends, again it is rugged old Sam Houston—breathing defiance to dictators of yet another age and telling them, as we tell the despots of a modern day, that 'liberty is our birthright' and that we propose again today to 'entrench our rights with noble resolution and defend them with heroic manliness.'

"Thank God for truth which withstands the onslaught of time! Thank God for the sentiments of heart of free men which do not change though faced with the dark forebodings of an uncertain future.

"May there be engraven just as deeply upon the tablets of our hearts, the heroic words of General Sam Houston when he called upon us—all of us—Texans of 1836, Texans of 1941—to pledge to this sacred cause 'our person, our property, our very lives' and let us share with him the noble thought that 'in heaven and in valorous hearts we repose our confidence.'

"It is particularly important, I think, that we should recall at this very time these words of admonition from one of our great leaders of the past, a leader who faced the challenge of dictatorship, a leader who was chosen by his comrades to direct their efforts in throwing off the yoke of tyranny and in guaranteeing for themselves and for their sons, and for their sons after them, the sacred and inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Those sturdy pioneers of another day accepted the challenge. They placed themselves in the path of the despot's desire. By their actions, as well as by their words, they pledged full allegiance to Houston's sentiment that the sacrifice of person, property, and life itself on the altar of freedom was not too great a price to pay for the privilege of organizing and maintaining a government which would exalt the rights of man and preserve for mankind those essentials to a free and untrammeled existence.

"How similar are the situations of 1836 and 1941. True, the proportions are immeasurably different, the battle front now more far-flung. But the issues are almost parallel; the opposing forces have striking resemblance to those of a century ago. The challenge of our safety, our well-being, our very existence is just as serious today as it was in the perilous years which our fathers knew.

San Jacinto Monument

H. Post 10/23/41

THE San Jacinto monument and museum have proved unexpectedly popular with visitors, and surprisingly successful.

During the first two years and seven months of operation, 938,347 persons signed the register, according to Ike Moore, the museum director. That is an average of 992 a day, more than 30,000 a month, and more than 363,666 a year.

Considering the infancy of the San Jacinto shrine, and the age, fame and historical wealth of some others in the Old South, it is remarkable and significant that no other museum south of the Mason and Dixon line can boast so many visitors.

There are several explanations of this phenomenon. One is the fascinating story of the epochal battle which won Texas' freedom. Another is the attraction of the shaft, which rises higher than the Washington monument. A third is the rare collection of relics exhibited in the museum, witnessing Texas' romantic history from the coming of the first Europeans through the period of early Statehood, 1846-1861.

Some 400 citizens of Texas and other States have given the museum more than 15,000 relics, 75,000 pages of manuscripts, hundreds of rare newspapers, maps, paintings, photographs, textiles and other mementoes of the past.

Outstanding among those contributors is a man who has provided still another cause of the museum's signal success—namely, George A. Hill Jr., Houston oil man and patron of the arts, who himself springs from distinguished Texan forebears. That cause is the hard, unselfish work done by the San Jacinto Museum of History association, of which Mr. Hill is president and mainspring, to establish and equip the institution, and to fill it with Texana.

The San Jacinto monument is the greatest physical product of the 1936 Texas Centennial, which caused hundreds of monuments and memorials to be erected throughout the State. It was built with $250,000 appropriated by the Texas Legislature, and about thrice that much more, obtained from the Federal government, principally through the efforts of Jesse Jones, then chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

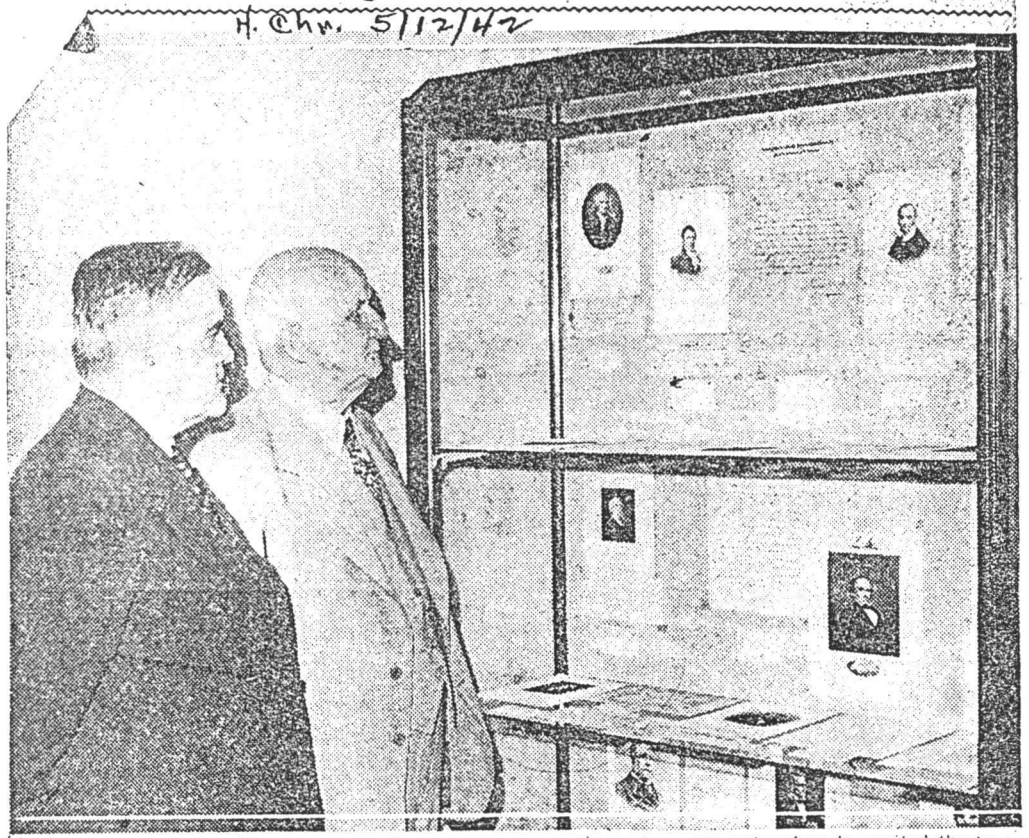
The criticism has been heard that this was an expensive luxury for the taxpayers, but, surprisingly, the monument already has yielded, in elevator fees and souvenir concession, $112,048—approximately $40,000 a year. Considerable of this money has been used for purchase of exhibition facilities and other equipment, as well as the maintenance of the structure. After these initial expenses are behind, most of the income will be net profit, and undoubtedly in time it will more than pay for itself in actual material value.

Compared to the educational and entertainment value of the monument and museum, the small elevator fee is nothing, and no complaints are heard on that score.

San Jacinto monument is a worthy memorial to one of this country's greatest historical events, and the museum will be a storehouse of more and more priceless relics of Texas' stirring beginnings. If you have a Texas historical item worthy of exhibition, you can become a sort of stockholder in this going enterprise, and secure the item's preservation through the ages, by donating it to the San Jacinto museum.

Colonel Flanagan Visits San Jacinto Museum

H. Chr. 5/12/42



On Monday Col. James W. Flanagan, right, international figure from Toronto, Canada, visited the San Jacinto Monument and Museum, and saw the collection of rare American autographs and letters he recently gave the museum. In company of Col. George A. Hill, Jr., president of the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, Colonel Flanagan is examining a portion of the collection relating to such prominent early Americans as James Madison, Andrew Jackson, James Monroe, Alexander Hamilton, and Aaron Burr.

Col. Flanagan Gives Letters to Museum

H. Chr. 4/12/42

Prominent Visitor Views Monument, Spends Two Hours Seeing Exhibit.

Col. James W. Flanagan, international figure in mining and petroleum, visited the San Jacinto Monument and Museum Monday and gave the museum one of the finest collections of letters and autographs the institution has yet received, according to Ike Moore, director of the museum.

A check for $1000 was presented to the San Jacinto Museum Tuesday by Colonel Flanagan. The check was delivered to Colonel Hill by Miss Audrey Louise Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tilford Jones. Colonel Hill said he was forwarding the check to the museum immediately.

In the company of Col. George A. Hill, Jr., prominent Houston oilman and president of the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, Colonel Flanagan spent nearly two hours examining the exhibits of the museum and touring the Battlegrounds.

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Letter Written in 1760.

In commenting on the Flanagan collection, which is now on exhibit, Mr. Moore said that perhaps the rarest document is a letter written by William Pitt the elder on August 23, 1760, regarding "illegal" trade between the American colonies and the West Indies. Pitt was then British secretary of state and became prime minister in 1766. Pitt was the leader of the British tories whose uncompromising attitude toward America led to the American revolution.

Dozens of outstanding American statesmen are represented in the collection. Among the presidents are James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, U. S. Grant, James A. Garfield and Chester A. Arthur.

Letters of Heroes.

Heroes of the American revolution whose letters are in the group include Alexander Hamilton, Robert Morris, Arthur St. Clair, Nicholas Gilmer, Charles Carroll of Carrolltown, last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence, and George Clymer, a signer from Pennsylvania.

Early American statesmen, jurists and political leaders represented are Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Justice Bushrod Washington, W. L. Marcy, R. M. Johnson, Clement Biddle, Aaron Burr and others.

Later American history is remembered by letters from Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis, Schuyler Colfax and Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

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Unusual Autographs.

Two unusual autographs in the Flanagan collection are those of Admiral Bligh of Pitcairn Island fame, and Thomas Moore, whose song, "Come to the Bower," led the Texan charge at San Jacinto.

Along with the letters Colonel Flanagan gave the museum several rare newspapers dealing with American politics in the 1830s and 1840s, 17 steel engravings of famous Americans and an important history of the American revolution.

In commenting on Colonel Flanagan's gift Mr. Moore said that it was indicative of the growth of the museum that it was receiving material from out of the state. Colonel Flanagan is a native Texan but has made his home in Toronto, Canada, for many years.

Houston Will Pay Debt ...ed to Old, Says Roosevelt

Also Chr. 5/31/42
U.S.S. Houston scrapbook.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt sent the following message to Houston on the occasion of the swearing in Saturday evening of 1000 Texans as Houston Volunteers to avenge the cruiser Houston:

"On this Memorial Day, all America joins with you who are gathered in proud tribute to a great ship and a gallant company of American officers and men. That fighting ship and those fighting Americans shall live forever in our hearts.

"I knew that ship and loved her. Her officers and men were my friends.

"When ship and men went down, still fighting, they did not go down to defeat. They had helped remove at least two heavy cruisers and probably other vessels from the active list of the enemy's ranks. The officers and men of the U. S. S. Houston were privileged to prove, once again, that free Americans consider no price too high to pay in defense of their freedom. The officers and men of the U. S. S. Houston drove a hard bargain. They sold their liberty and their lives most dearly.

"The spirit of those officers and men is still alive. That is being proved today in Houston—in all Texas, in all America. Not one of us doubts that the 1000 naval recruits sworn in today will carry on with the same determined spirit shown by the gallant men who have gone before them. Not one of us doubts that every true Texan and every true American will back up these new fighting men, and all our fighting men, with all our hearts and all our efforts.

"Our enemies have given us the chance to prove that there will be another U. S. S. Houston, and yet another U. S. S. Houston if that becomes necessary, and still another U. S. S. Houston as long as American ideals are in jeopardy. Our enemies have given us the chance to prove that an attack on peace-loving but proud Americans is the very gravest of all mistakes.

"The officers and men of the U. S. S. Houston have placed us all in their debt by winning a part of the victory which is our common goal. Reverently, and with all humility, we acknowledge this debt. To those officers and men, wherever they may be, we give our solemn pledge that the debt will be paid in full.

"Franklin D. Roosevelt."

72 W. A. C.'s Inducted In San Jacinto Ceremony

By MARY ELIZABETH MATZKE

At the San Jacinto battle ground where, 108 years ago General Sam Houston and a small band of Texans surprised the Mexican army of General Santa Anna and in 20 minutes won the victory that decided the fate of this state, 72 young women Friday afternoon took the oath of allegiance as recruits in the women's army corps, forming the San Jacinto air-W. A. C. company, to go forth in the tradition of their forefathers and do their part in another fight against tyranny and despotism.

Dressed in tailored suits and wearing white carnation corsages presented them by members of the W. A. C. civilian recruiting committee, the young women raised their right hands and repeated after Capt. Emily U. Miller, liaison officer from Eighth service command headquarters in Dallas: "I, ——, a citizen of the United States, do hereby acknowledge to have voluntarily enlisted, this twenty-first day of April, 1944, in the women's army corps, army of the United States of America."

As the last words of the pledge faded away, Captain Miller smiled upon the group of young women and bade them welcome to the army.

'Good Luck, Soldiers!'

"You have just become a partner in the greatest enterprise on earth, the army of the United States of America," Captain Miller said. "Good luck, soldiers!"

The oath was administered after an address by Peter Molyneaux, Texas historian and author, who spoke to the assembled hundreds of "one of the decisive battles of the world," and urged them to "keep faith with the small band of men who went forth to the fight for freedom."

Mr. Molyneaux recounted the history of the battle and paid tribute not only to the men who saved Texas from despotism more than 100 years ago, but also to those serving on the battle fronts today.

"The men who fought for liberty in Texas, the men who defended the federal republican system against centralism and consolidated government; yes, and who died in defense of that system as they did in the Alamo, left to succeeding generations of Texans and to us a glorious heritage. The liberty and independence they won for us are not something for which we should be grateful merely, but are a sacred trust which it is our responsibility to defend and preserve, not only for ourselves and our children, but for all future generations. The Texans who fight on the battlefronts of the world today are worthy of that heritage and are faithful to that trust. For they are fighting valiantly and dying nobly to maintain the precious things that were won for us on this battle field of San Jacinto.

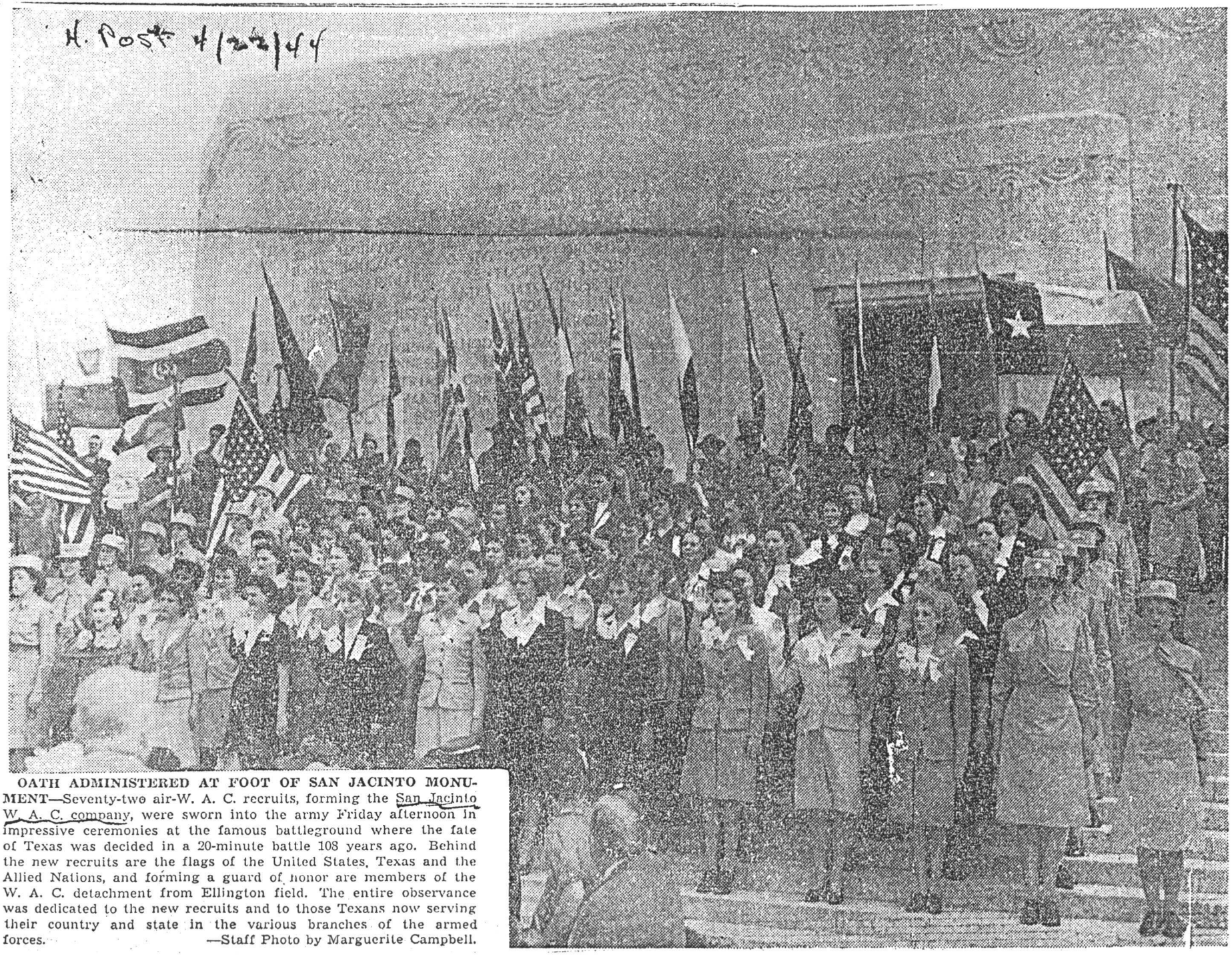
The swearing-in ceremony took place on the steps of the San Jacinto monument, with the spire of the monument rising behind them to the skies. Forming a background for the recruits as they took the oath was a large group of Boy Scouts and Sea Scouts carrying the flags of the United States, Texas and the Allied Nations, fluttering wildly in the strong wind that swept across the plains and carried the words of the pledge across the battle ground.

Maj. C. T. Reese, special services officer of Ellington field, addressing the recruits before the oath was administered, praised not only the recruits themselves but the people of Houston and its vicinity as well.

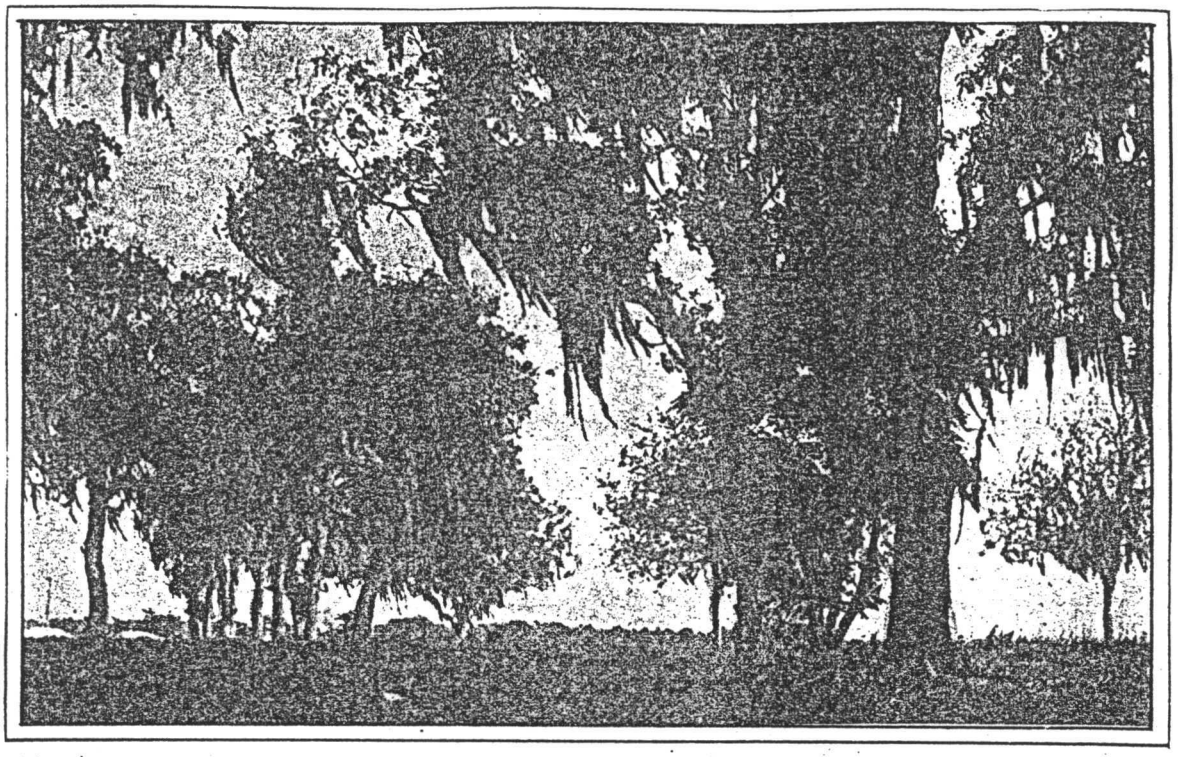
'Thank You,' Houston

"This is not the first time an army officer has stood before a group of Houstonians and, in behalf of the army, said 'thank you'," Major Reese said. "We have asked a lot of you, war bonds, Red Cross, army relief. We have even invaded your homes and asked for your sons.

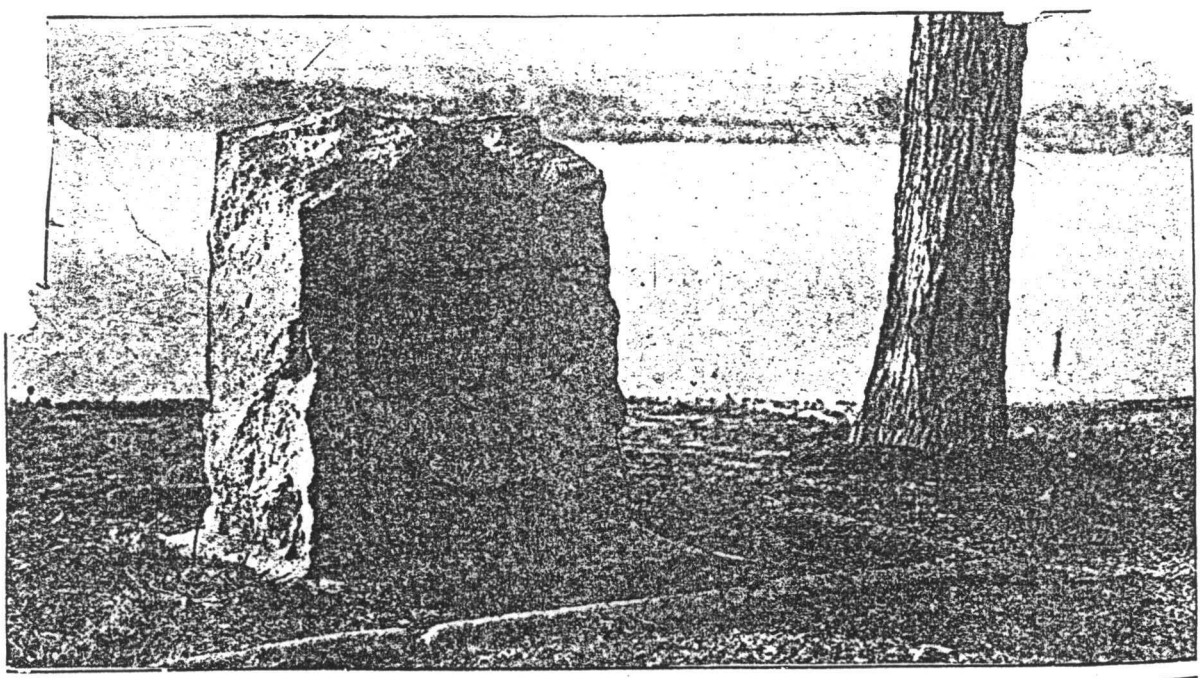
H. Post 4/22/44



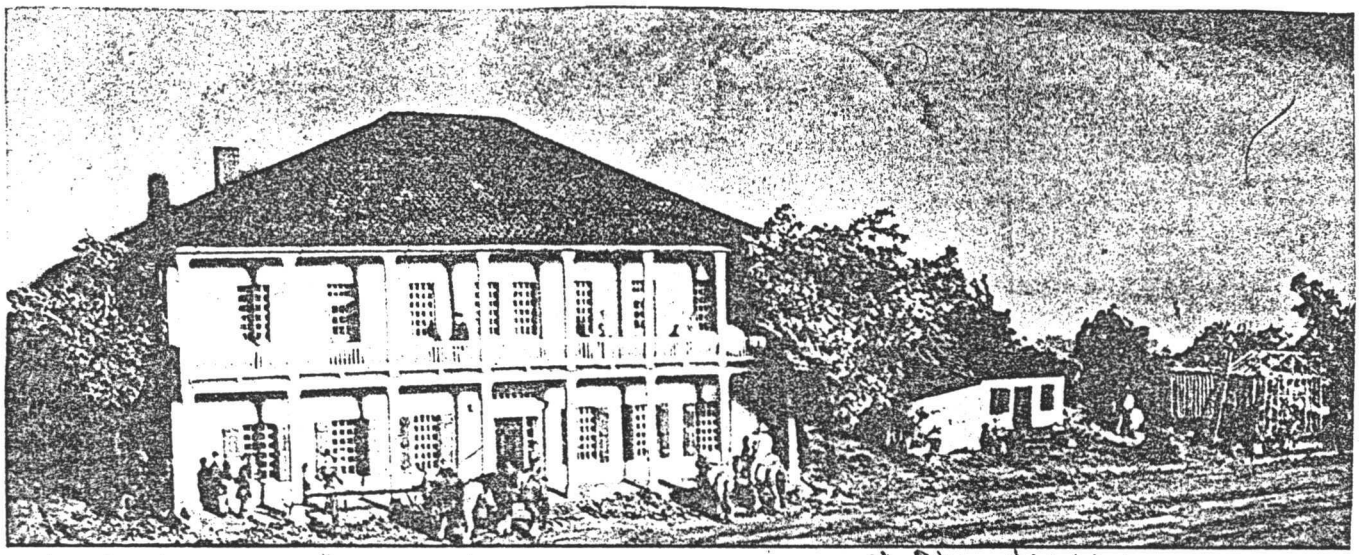
OATH ADMINISTERED AT FOOT OF SAN JACINTO MONUMENT—Seventy-two air-W. A. C. recruits, forming the San Jacinto W. A. C. company, were sworn into the army Friday afternoon in impressive ceremonies at the famous battleground where the fate of Texas was decided in a 20-minute battle 108 years ago. Behind the new recruits are the flags of the United States, Texas and the Allied Nations, and forming a guard of honor are members of the W. A. C. detachment from Ellington field. The entire observance was dedicated to the new recruits and to those Texans now serving their country and state in the various branches of the armed forces. —Staff Photo by Marguerite Campbell.



These moss-laden trees stand cheek by jowl with the monument which is planned to endure for all time. A glance down the years through the eyes of history and the structure stirs the imagination. Then: A rugged pioneer company fighting desperately for a cause. Now: A mighty people richly remembering their glorious heritage.

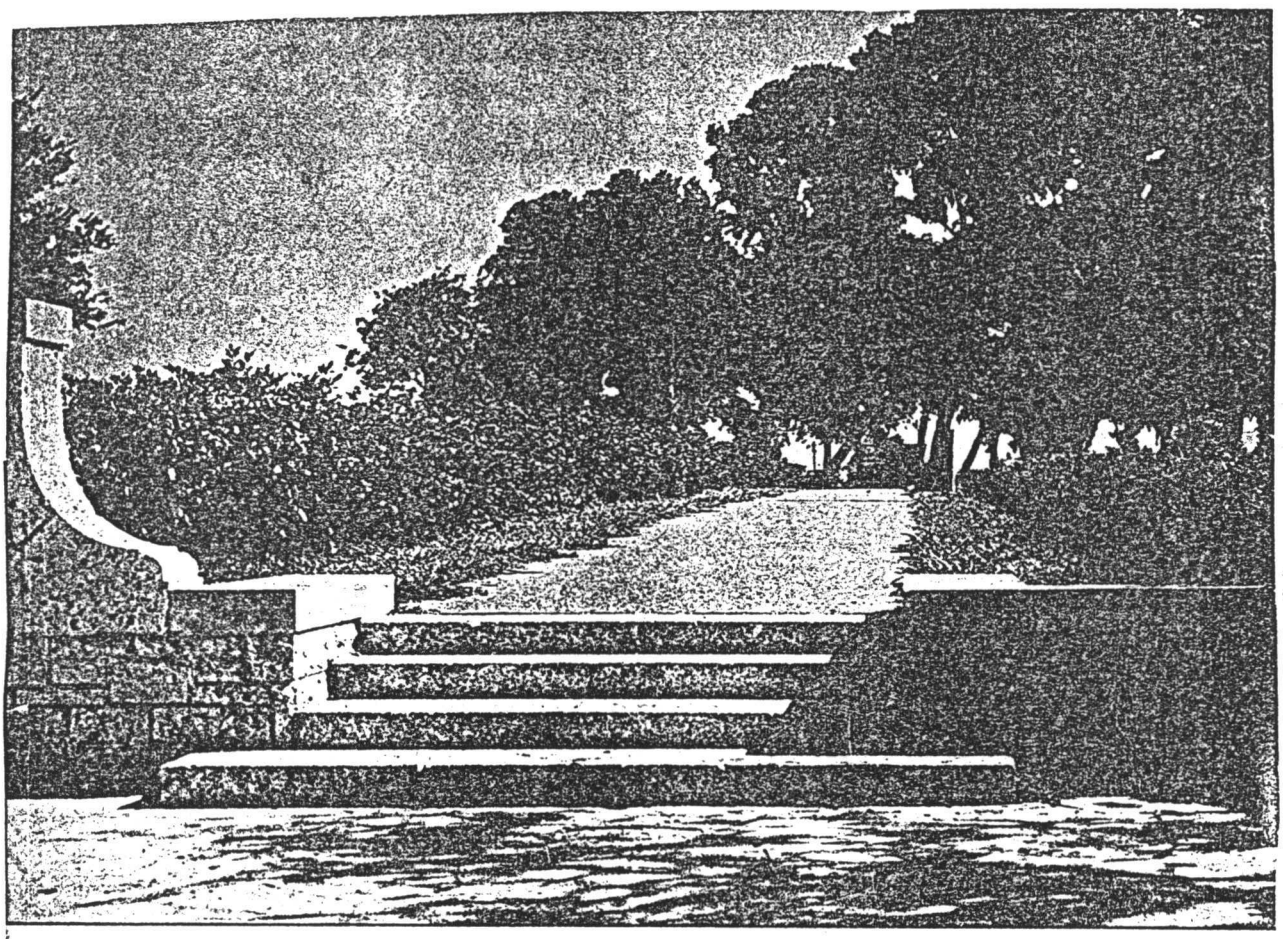


Marker on the site where General Houston made his camp after the battle. It is on the banks of the Ship Channel a few steps away from the monument. Today ocean-going ships steam past the place where the rattle of musketry and the yells of defiance and vengeance resounded 100 years ago when Houston's little band of about 800 men soundly whipped Santa Anna's command of more than twice that number.



H. Chr. 4/21/40

First capitol at Harrisburg, now a part of the city of Houston, before the provisional government of the Texas republic had established itself. It is reproduced in another diorama.



Part of the park which had been beautifully landscaped. The spot on the days after the battle wa crowded with jubilant Texas soldiers whose leaders were yet to face the stern task of guiding the des tinies of the only republic that ever existed within what is now the United States.

The highest monument in America—that's San Jacinto Memorial whose 567 feet of Texas limestone is Texas' most exalted shrine of patriotism.

Situated 22 miles from Houston, Texas, in San Jacinto State Park, the San Jacinto Memorial Monument is visited annually by millions from every state in the union and nearly every country on the globe. The fact that it reaches into the clouds twelve feet higher than the noted Washington monument, which formerly was the tallest memorial in the nation, makes it one of the nation's great attractions.

San Jacinto Battlegrounds is a state park of 500 acres and was the scene of the decisive battle between the Texan and Mexican armies which won independence for Texas on April 21, 1836.

Many historical markers and monuments are scattered throughout the grounds marking spots of skirmishes, various places of historical interest and the last resting places of noted Texans.

From the top of San Jacinto Monument one gets a beautiful view of the Houston Ship Channel, and generally several large ocean-going ships on their way to or from the seven seas of the world can be seen.

The Memorial is constructed of reinforced concrete faced with variegated golden buff Texas limestone quarried near Austin, the state capital. Polished limestone is of shell formation and takes a high polish, which makes it appear quite similar to travertine marble.

An idea of the immense size of this monument may be gained from a scrutiny of the huge star on its apex. This star is 35 feet high and as many feet in breadth, and weighs 220 tons. Yet, from the ground it appears to be a mere plaything.

The foundation of this memorial was built to last through the centuries. In it are 120 carloads of gravel, 90 carloads of sand, 25 carloads of cement, and 11 carloads of steel.

The base has two broad approach terraces. One rises six feet and has a spread of 364 feet in each direction. The other rises nine feet and has a spread of 244 feet.

The San Jacinto Museum of History

The San Jacinto Museum of History Association, a patriotic organization supported by private subscription, has established one of the great historical museums of the United States in the five spacious rooms at the base of the monument. This association has been given custody of the entire monument by legislative act.

The main entrance to the monument and museum leads to the Hall of Honor, forty-four feet by forty-five feet, which has four niches for statuary. On either side of this hall are the two main museum rooms, each 36 by 103 feet. It has been tentatively decided to use the room to the right or south side for exhibition of material covering the period of Spanish and Mexican rule over Texas, and the room on the north side for the period of Anglo-American domination.

b Oct. 1940

A room, about the same size as the Hall of Honor, at the back or east side of the building is used as a library and exhibition room for rare Texas books and documents. In the center of the base is the elevator lobby, a large room offering additional museum space.

Amphitheatre Seats More Than 5000

At the rear of the base building is an amphitheatre seating more than 5000. On the opposite side is a lagoon wherein the shaft is mirrored from base to tip.

Through the Hall of Honor a large entrance lobby leads to an elevator which whisks visitors up through the shaft to the observation tower.

The shaft is 47 feet square at the base and tapers to 30 feet at the top. Its total weight is 70,300,000 pounds.

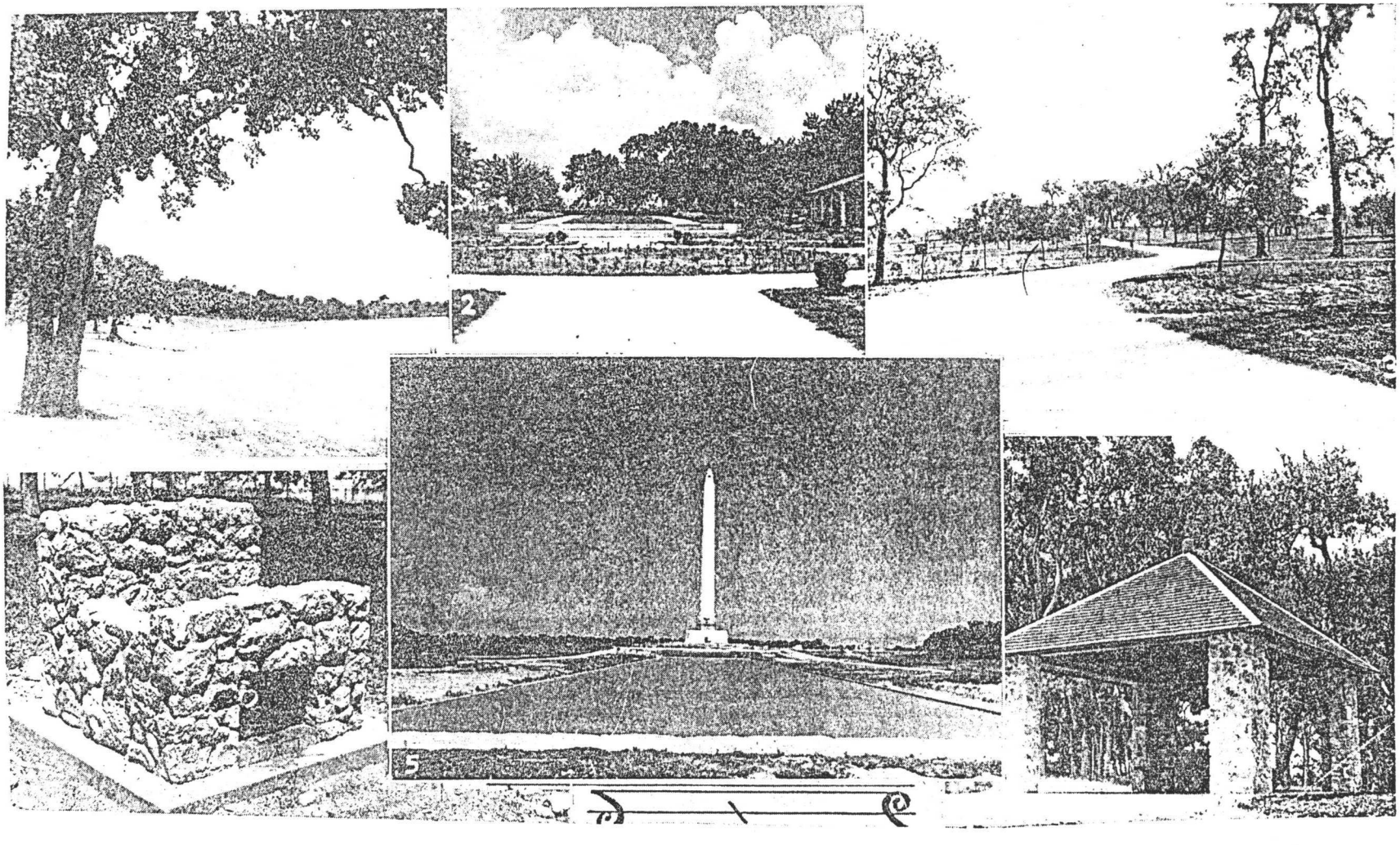
The cost of the project, not including the statuary, paintings, and exhibits, has run well over a million dollars.

The San Jacinto Battlegrounds, in which the lofty memorial is located, is Texas' most sacred ground, for here in 1836 General Sam Houston and his band of some 800 tattered patriots put to rout Santa Anna's Mexican army of twice the strength, lifting from Texas the yoke of Mexican oppression, thereby assuring the complete independence of the Lone Star State, and securing for the United States nearly one-third of its land area.

The Battle of San Jacinto, though lasting but eighteen minutes on April 21, 1836, is conceded to be the sixteenth most decisive conflict in the world's history.

Below: SCENES IN SAN JACINTO PARK AND BATTLEFIELD

1. A view of the Battle Grounds along the Houston Ship Channel. 2. The "Great Circle" with its walks of native stone and its beds planted in native flowers. 3. A view of the roadway that winds for miles within the grounds. 4. One of the six stone and concrete barbecue pits which aid in making the park a favored picnic site. 5. A view of the Monument which shows its length mirrored in the reflecting basin in the foreground. 6. One of the three rubble masonry recreation houses within the grounds. WPA furnished funds for these improvements.



H. Chron 5/22/45

Former Director of Monument Museum Is Buried at Sea.

Lt. (jg) Ike Moore, 36, who until his enlistment in the navy two years ago was director of the San Jacinto Monument Museum, was killed in action at sea, according to word received by his family at Hillsboro. Burial was at sea.

A graduate of the University of Texas, Lieutenant Moore had been in charge of the museum at San Jacinto Battleground since its opening in 1939.

o o o

Was on Escort Carrier.

He enlisted in the navy in the spring of 1943 and received his training at Corpus Christi and Columbia University. He was communications officer on an escort carrier in the Pacific at the time of his death, the navy reported. He had been overseas since December, 1944.

His 18-month-old son, Henry, is with Mrs. Turner Knight of Hillsboro, aunt of Mrs. Moore, who died shortly after the babys birth.

Lieutenant Moore received his bacheleor and master of arts degrees from the University of Texas and had completed some of the work on his doctorate. He had taught history at Hillsboro Junior College and at the University of Texas.

o o o

Headed Historical Survey.

Prior to becoming director of the San Jacinto Memorial Museum, he was head of the federal government's historical record survey of Texas.

LT. (jg) IKE MOORE.

"Lieutenant Moore was a very fine and capable man, and we will sorely miss him," George A. Hill, Jr., president of the board of the museum and well-known oilman, said Tuesday. "Because of his training, the navy wanted Moore to be an instructor, but he requested assignment as a deck officer," Mr. Hill reported.

Survivors besides his son, include his mother of Uvalde, a brother in the army, a sister in Florida, and L. F. LeFevre of Houston, his uncle.

NEW SAN JACINTO MUSEUM DIRECTOR NAMED BY BOARD

H. Chr. — 7/6/45

Mrs. Dorothy W. Estes has been appointed director of the San Jacinto Museum of History located at San Jacinto Battleground, it was announced Friday by the board of trustees.

Mrs. Estes has been acting director of the museum while Lt. Ike Moore was on duty with the navy. Lieutenant Moore was recently killed in action in the Pacific.

A graduate of the University of Texas, Mrs. Estes has a bachelor of arts degree in Spanish. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Delta Pi and Pi Sigma Alpha, honorary scholastic societies.

The trustees of the museum association passed a resolution expressing sympathy to the family of Lieutenant Moore, who was the first director of the San Jacinto Museum. Trustees include George A. Hill, Jr., president; L. W. Kemp, vice-president; Col. W. B. Bates, treasurer; Alfred C. Finn and Mrs. Madge W. Hearne.

HONOR FOR HERO—George A. Hill Jr., president of the San Jacinto Museum, presents Director Dorothy Estes with the plaque honoring the late Lt. (jg) Ike Moore, hero of Okinawa and former director of the museum. The ceremonies were held at the San Jacinto Battleground monument Sunday. 4/22/46

Robert J. Cummins Has Directed $250,000,000 in City Construction

San Jacinto Monument Is His Crowning Achievement.

BY MARTIN DREYER
Chronicle Staff Writer

Hurricanes keep pounding away at the city, but through all the sound and fury the great concrete-and-iron structures stand as imperturable as the man who designed so many of them.

You won't be straying from the truth if you call Robert J. Cummins "the builder of Houston."

Gaze in any direction out his office window in the Bankers Mortgage Building and you will see some of the $250,000,000 worth of construction put up under his direction.

Mr. Cummins' top job as consulting and structural engineer was the designing of the San Jacinto Monument.

"That job was unique because it had to be designed to withstand 125 miles-per-hour hurricane winds," said the silvery-haired, soft-voiced man. "But we had no concern, because of the excellent soil it rests on—a clay bed at least 100 feet in depth."

The monument has settled about 2⅝ inches, "which the University of Texas soil mechanics department predicted would happen," and will settle a total of 4 inches in the next 500 years, Mr. Cummins said.

As a structural engineer, Mr. Cummins designs the skeleton of a structure, giving it a strong bony foundation, which is then clothed in beauty by the architect.

As a consulting engineer, he is like a doctor called in by another one to give his views on treating the patient. The Cummins diagnosis has resulted in many buildings emerging strong and powerful and ready to service generations of Houstonians.

Mr. Cummins was born in Mountmellick, Ireland, 68 years ago. He got his engineering degree from Queen's College of the Royal University of Ireland in 1900.

He came to the United States the following year, lived in Michigan for 10 years before moving to Houston.

The city that is burning up the big leagues was then just an amateur at bat. The Rice Hotel was being patted into shape. Main Street was barely a main street.

Now, 38 years later, Mr. Cummins looks out over the city and its great port and sees his marks everywhere.

Member of the Port Commission for 25 years and vice-chairman of it for 15 years, he has retained a large interest in port activities and the billion dollars worth of industries that line the channel.

In fact, his engineering skill has gone into the erection of many of these channel plants.

BUILDER OF HOUSTON—That's a title that fits Robert J. Cummins, consulting and structural engineer. Mr. Cummins has had his expert hand in construction projects all over the city.

construction Finance Corporation and investigated the desirability of using interurban trains or busses on the new San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge.

He recommended that interurban trains be used and "the project has paid off so well that our judgment was vindicated."

He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, past president of the Texas section, and member of the Houston Engineers Club.

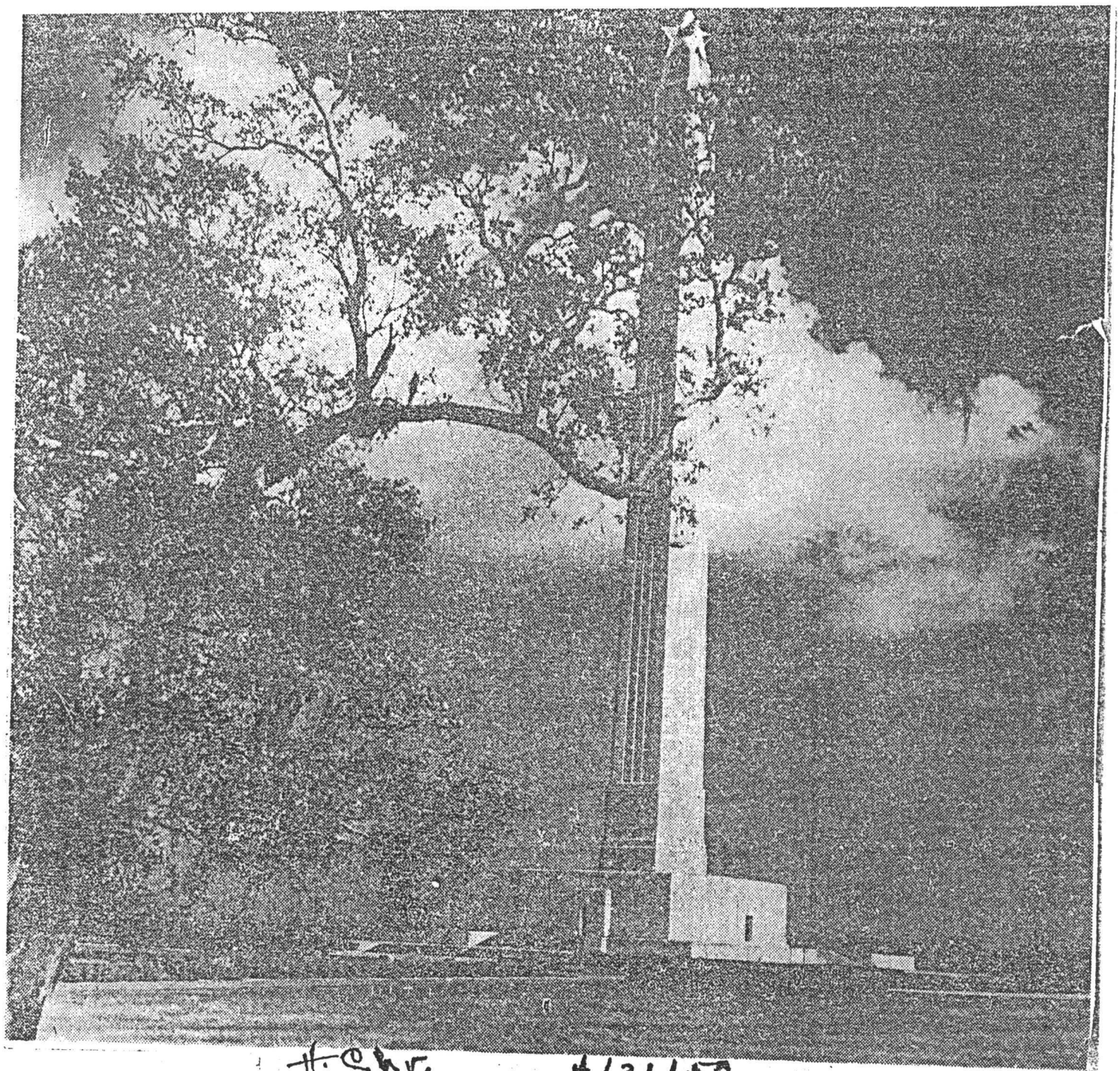
Mr. Cummins is a modest man and hesitates to discuss his achievements. But the records speak for themselves.

Among large projects of recent years with which he has been, and is now, connected in the Houston area are the University of Houston, structural design; Chamber of Commerce Building, 13-story addition, structural design; Hughes Aircraft Strut Plant and Reed Roller Bit Tank Transmission Plant design and supervision; Tin Processing Corporation Plant at Texas City, design and supervision; Sheffield Steel of Texas, ore dock, design and supervision; Eastern States Petroleum Company, high octane plant, consultant.

United States Naval Hospital, structural design; Hughes Tool Company's $2,000,000 expansion program at main plant; City National Bank Building, structural design; Rice Hotel Garage; First National Bank Garage, additions to The Chronicle, Commerce and Gulf buildings; the Shrine Hospital; Ezekiel Cullen Building at the University of Houston, and the new Southwestern Bell Telephone Toll Building.

Other members of Mr. Cummin's organization are F. E. Zumwalt, C. J. Howard, William H. Cummins, R. W. Condon and Mrs. J. A. Lunsford.

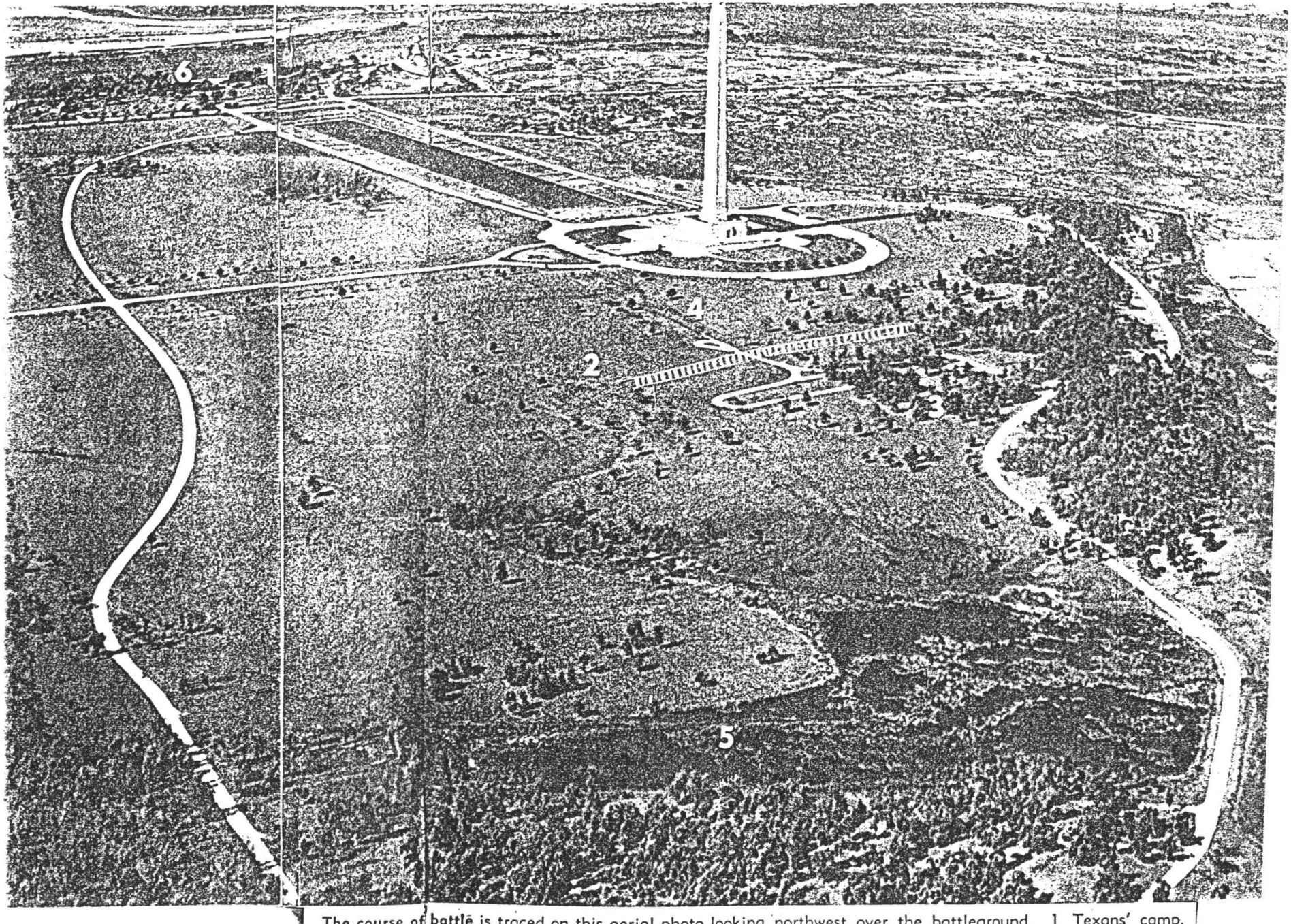
The noted engineer's wife, Sascha Cummins, is an author. They live at 4526 Bellaire Boulevard and have three children. May is a senior in arts at the University of Texas, Jean is a senior at Lamar High School and Jim, following in his father's impressive footsteps, is a senior in engineering at S. M. U.



H.C.Chr. 4/21/50

A RARE BLENDING of day and night effect, to highlight the Lone Star symbol atop San Jacinto Monument, was achieved in the above photo by Cecil Thomson, Houston commercial photographer. The picture, copyrighted by Mr. Thomson, was taken at twilight and sharply accentuates the Texas shrine, erected on the spot where Texans under Gen. Sam Houston defeated the Mexicans and won independence 114 years ago today.

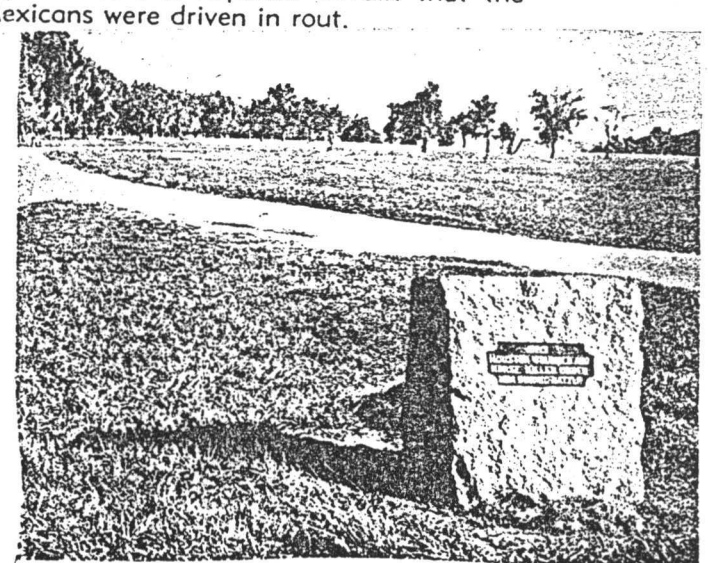
See story on Page 17, Section A.



The course of battle is traced on this aerial photo looking northwest over the battleground. 1. Texans' camp. 2. Mexican breastworks. 3. Santa Anna's camp. 4. Where Houston was wounded. 5. Where Mexicans were routed. 6. Where Santa Anna surrendered

Spanish moss dangles peacefully in the breeze trom great oak trees marking the spot where Santa Anna had his camp.

Across this marshy area is Peggy's Lake. It was into this hopeless terrain that the Mexicans were driven in rout.



The Texans' leader, Gen. Sam Houston, had a narrow escape at this spot. He was wounded in the leg when his horse was shot from under him.

A historic watch, *worn by a Mexican general at the Battle of San Jacinto, is admired by Mrs. L. O. Allen of Pasadena at the San Jacinto Museum of History.*

Visitors to Monument Would Crowd Chicago

Houston Chr. 6/7/50

Enough people to fill a town the size of Chicago have visited the San Jacinto Monument since it first opened its doors to the public on April 20, 1939.

That's what figures released by Mrs. Dorothy Knepper, director of the San Jacinto Museum of History, showed.

Between the opening day, and May 31, 1950, 3,698,825 people have trekked out to the monument to view the huge buff fossilized stone shaft and poke through its museum of 400,000 manuscripts, 7000 relics, 1400 pictures, 85,000 newspapers, and 15,000 other publications of various kinds, all related to Texas history.

Between April, 1949 and May 31, 1950, 528,886 visitors have come to the mounment, the report showed.

The association recently issued a booklet, on the first decade of the monument and museum, which paid tribute to the late George A. Hill, Jr., who, until the time of his death, served as president of the museum's board.

The contents of the museum are valued at $12,132.

During the decade, the association has received a total of $544,481 from donations, elevator tickets, curio and publication sales.

A Memento From La Salle?

H. Chr. 2/4/51

By Chester Rogers
Staff Writer

A highly-prized seventeenth century weapon, a halberd, has been given the San Jacinto Museum by Ernest C. Coker, owner of College Inn.

Made of wrought iron, ornately engraved with various floral, animal and mythological figures, the weapon, in an excellent state of preservation, was found two blocks from the Alamo in San Antonio while water department crewmen were making an excavation.

Mrs. David W. Knepper, head of the museum staff, said the weapon is of the type known as a spontoon or partisan, of French origin, in the style of the late seventeenth century, according to Randolph Bullock, associate curator of the arms and armor department of the Metropolitan Museum in New York. It was long handled and was used somewhat in the manner of a battle ax.

There are believed to be not more than three weapons of this particular type in the United States.

Mr. Coker bought the halberd in San Antonio, and added it to his collection, at one time one of the top bladed weapon collections in Houston. He has decided to dispose of his hundreds of blades, and gave several to the San Jacinto Museum.

John P. Roberts, associate professor of metallurgy at the University of Houston, said tests proved that the metal employed in the manufacture of the halberd was wrought iron. Its microstructure showed colonies of siliceous slag instead of the striated pattern usually seen in wrought iron manufactured within the past 50 years.

Mrs. Knepper said research had indicated the weapon was brought to Texas by French explorers, possibly one of La Salle's parties which crossed Texas territory several times.

Photo by the Writer

Weapons of two nations *that once claimed Texas were included in the collection of bladed weapons Ernest C. Coker, right, gave to the San Jacinto Museum. Shown here presenting a French halberd to Mrs. David W. Knepper, head of the museum, Coker holds in his other hand a Spanish type blade known to have been made in Toledo, Spain.*

Letters Given San Jacinto Museum

H. Chr. 3/4/51

Five historic Texas letters—including two written in Spanish by Stephen F. Austin, and two signed by Sam Houston—have been presented to the San Jacinto Museum by Dr. Paul R. Stalnaker of Houston and his brother, Guy Cloud Stalnaker of Austin.

The Austin letters, signed "Estevan F. Austin," were given to the Stalnaker brothers' great-grandfather, Adam Cloud, an Episcopal clergyman, and directed the guard at the mouth of the Brazos River to recognize him as a colonist in the area which Austin wished to settle.

The letters were dated September 18 and December 29, 1831, and are entirely in Austin's handwriting.

One of the Sam Houston letters, dated December 11, 1844, was addressed to Mrs. Asa Brigham, maternal grandmother of Doctor Stalnaker and second wife of Asa Brigham, a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The other Sam Houston letter was addressed to Capt. Joseph Walker of Austin, great-uncle of the Stalnaker brothers, and the first official printer of the state of Texas. This letter, dated September 12, 1860, directed Captain Walker to take over certain state supplies at Dallas.

Fifth letter of the collection was addressed to Mrs. Brigham, and was signed by D. D. L. Kaufman, first United States congressman from Texas.

In a letter to L. W. Kemp, president of the San Jacinto Museum, Doctor Stalnaker said the historical importance of the letters found among his mother's effects after her death had caused him and his brother to decide to give the documents to the state museum.

The letters will be placed on permanent display at the museum late next month.

It Saw Service at

SAN JACINTO

H.C.H.C., By Chester Rogers
Staff Writer 4/15/51

A watch that ticked off the seconds of one of the most decisive engagements of our world has been added to the collection on Texas history in the San Jacinto Museum of History at the San Jacinto Mounment.

This beautiful gold watch, chain and ornate fob was worn during the Battle of San Jacinto, which won independence for Texas, by the Mexican general, Martin Perfecto de Cos, brother-in-law of Santa Anna.

General Cos gave the watch to the late Dr. George Moffett Patrick of Deepwater after the battle "as a token of appreciation for medical aid rendered while a prisoner."

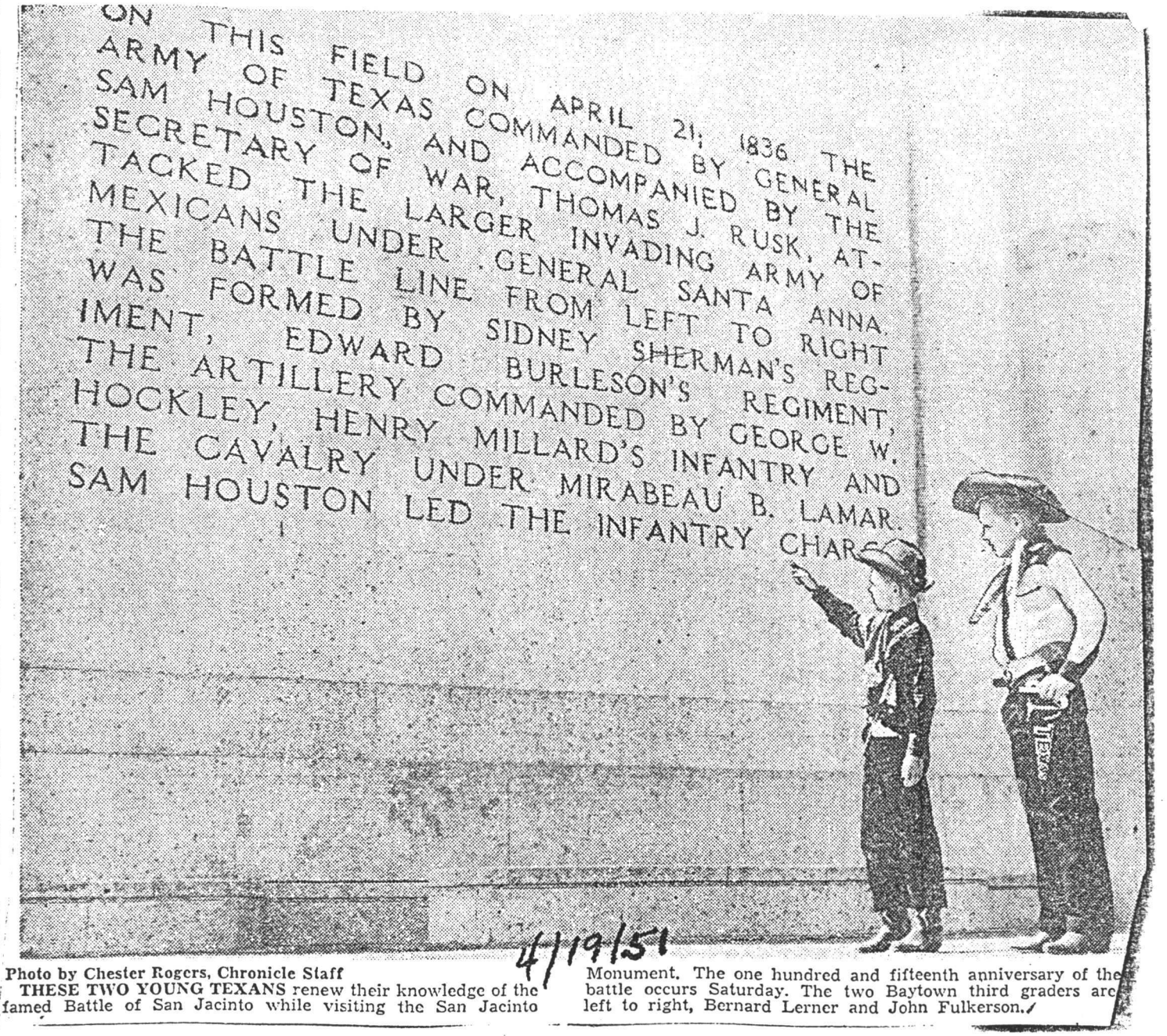
The watch was presented to the San Jacinto Museum of History by William Lee Logan of Scarsdale, N. Y., who is a great-great-grandson of Doctor Patrick and the son of Mrs. Corrine Howell Logan, formerly of Lancaster.

Doctor Patrick, a native of Virginia, where he was born in 1801, emigrated to Texas in his late 20s immediately joining in the affairs of the community. In 1832, he fought as a volunteer at Anahuac and in 1835 attended a consultation at San Felipe as a delegate from Liberty when the provisional government was formed. He served many times between the president and the volunteer army.

After the Battle of San Jacinto, the Texas army encamped at Doctor Patrick's house in Deepwater and cabinet meetings were often held there. During the early days of the Republic of Texas, he was surveyor of Harris County, and for a while was chief justice in Grimes County. From 1848 to 1850 he was most worshipful grand master of the Grand Lodge of Texas Masons. He died June 28, 1889, and was buried in the Texas State Cemetery at Austin.

General Cos was a native of Vera Cruz, Mexico, where he was born about 1800. In 1821 he was a member of Iturbide's insurrectionist army and in 1835 was named commander-in-chief of the Eastern Internal Provinces of Mexico. In 1835 he occupied San Antonio, was shortly forced out by the Texans, but by February, 1836, under orders of Santa Anna, he was back in San Antonio. He brought up reinforcements to Santa Anna at the Battle of San Jacinto and was captured by the Texans on April 24 after the complete rout of the Mexican army.

The watch was made by Johnson of Liverpool during the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century.


ON THIS FIELD ON APRIL 21, 1836 THE
ARMY OF TEXAS COMMANDED BY GENERAL
SAM HOUSTON, AND ACCOMPANIED BY THE
SECRETARY OF WAR, THOMAS J. RUSK, AT-
TACKED THE LARGER INVADING ARMY OF
MEXICANS UNDER GENERAL SANTA ANNA.
THE BATTLE LINE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
WAS FORMED BY SIDNEY SHERMAN'S REG-
IMENT, EDWARD BURLESON'S REGIMENT,
THE ARTILLERY COMMANDED BY GEORGE W.
HOCKLEY, HENRY MILLARD'S INFANTRY AND
THE CAVALRY UNDER MIRABEAU B. LAMAR.
SAM HOUSTON LED THE INFANTRY CHAR

4/19/51

Photo by Chester Rogers, Chronicle Staff

THESE TWO YOUNG TEXANS renew their knowledge of the famed Battle of San Jacinto while visiting the San Jacinto Monument. The one hundred and fifteenth anniversary of the battle occurs Saturday. The two Baytown third graders are left to right, Bernard Lerner and John Fulkerson.

Houston Portrait Comes 'Home' to San Jacinto

BY MARTIN DREYER
Chronicle Staff 4/19/51

As if fulfilling its destiny, the portrait of Gen. Sam Houston ended its long wanderings Thursday and came home to the hallowed place where Texas won its independence.

The painting of Texas' immortal hero was moved from central library to the San Jacinto Monument. There in the state shrine it will hang, for all to see.

And there it may remain, at journey's end, after the restless travels which have brought it to many stopping places.

Fifty-nine years ago in Paris the illustrious Texas-born artist, Stephen Seymour Thomas, put the last brush-stroke on the equestrian painting—a huge 14 by 10-foot canvas from which glows the strength and character of the founder of the Republic of Texas.

A year later it was loaned to a group of Texas women for exhibition at the World's Fair in Chicago.

In 1904, "le formidable Houston," as the painting was referred to in Paris, was given the place of honor in the French "Salon." For 16 years visiting Americans and foreigners alike came to admire it, and along with other Thomas paintings it brought honors, medals and diplomas for its creator.

In 1920, when Seymour Thomas and his wife moved to California, where he still leads an active artistic life, they decided to present the portrait to the city named after the great general.

Houston's Mayor A. E. Amerman officially accepted the portrait in January, 1921, and the formal resolution of acceptance said of Mr. Thomas: "...we express to him our profound sense of obligation in assuming trusteeship for this heroic portrait and our belief that it will prove always a source of patriotic inspiration for many generations of Texans yet to come . . ."

The painting, which had traveled far, still had no place it could call home. The city fathers couldn't find a roof for it—you couldn't hang a 14-foot painting over the mantlepiece.

Hung in University Club

Finally it was placed at the University Club, where it hung for about three years.

With the completion of the Museum of Fine Arts in 1924, General Sam was moved again.

The painting remained at the museum for four years, hanging at the landing of the stairs, but it was not properly displayed there and it was too large to be permanently hung in the galleries, according to Director James Chillman, Jr.

So the painting was on the move again. This time to Central Library, where it first could be seen in one of the reading rooms. Then it was shifted again, to the landing between the second and third floor, near the entrance of the Texas Room.

Now it is at the Monument, at the site where Gen. Sam Houston and his men were victorious over Gen. Santa Anna's army in the Battle of San Jacinto, assuring independence for Texas.

Now the picture may be seen by the many Houstonians who didn't even know it existed.

And there are many, according to J. M. de Beaufort, of Los Angeles, a friend of the artist, who had difficulty locating the portrait on a recent visit to Houston.

When he finally found it at the library he wondered how it had ever landed at that spot.

No Picture of Painting

Also, in a visit here to bookstores and other places he was unable to find a photograph of the painting, he said.

Mr. De Beaufort told of the artist, Seymour Thomas, whom he had known for more than 20 years.

Born in San Augustine on August 20, 1868, Thomas' maternal grandfather, Col. Stephen W. Blount, one of the signers of the Texas declaration of independence, was a close friend of General Houston and a member of his staff at the battle of San Jacinto. Colonel Blount, who died in 1890, nominated Houston for the presidency of the republic of Texas.

Seymour Thomas' entire youth was steeped in Houston lore and legend, and he told his mother that some day he would paint a picture of General Sam.

After studying in New York he went to Paris, where he enrolled at the Academy Julian. He lived a struggling artist's life for a while, but in 1892 gained fame with his painting, "Victime Innocente." And in that same year he fulfilled his promise to his mother to paint the portrait of Houston.

Many years have passed since then and the artist has gone on to large artistic accomplishments. And in those many years his painting moved restlessly from place to place.

But now it has come home at last, and citizens may now view the vital portrait of a great Texan at the site where the state's independence was born.

SAM HOUSTON'S PORTRAIT was being fastened into its final place of honor in the San Jacinto Monument Museum Friday afternoon—in time for today's San Jacinto Day visitors—when Chronicle Staffman Chester Rogers took this picture. The world-famous painting by Artist Seymour Thomas was transferred from the Central Library to the museum. At the top of the ladder is Joseph P. Donnelley, cabinetmaker, with Brochsteins, Inc., who is fastening bolts that tie the huge framed picture into place. On the scaffold are helpers, left to right, James Reece, Johnny O'Bryant, Willie Bibbs and Harvey Moye. Steadying the ladder at lower left are museum staffmen, left to right, A. L. Newsome, Dale Williams and H. B. King.

H. Post, 4/22/51

Thousands of Texans made the pilgrimage to San Jacinto Battleground Saturday to observe Texas' most important state holiday—San Jacinto Day.

It was on April 21, 115 years ago, that Texas won one of history's most decisive battles. The Texas Army swept to victory in the Battle of San Jacinto, a victory that resulted in the birth of the Republic of Texas and brought fame to the leader, Gen Sam Houston.

SPECIAL SAN JACINTO memorial ceremonies were sponsored by an organization devoted to keeping alive the memory of those Texans who fought and died gallantly in the battle for Texas independence—the San Jacinto Chapters of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

Ceremonies were held both on the Battleship Texas and on the Battleground.

Aboard the Battleship Texas, the retired colors of the Department of Texas, Veterans of Foreign Wars, were presented for permanent enshrinement.

At the San Jacinto Monument, the 570-foot tribute in limestone to the victory, a ceremonial wreath was placed by the League of Latin American Citizens.

EDWARD TRUITT, manager of the Credit Bureau of Greater Houston, was the principal speaker at the public ceremony, which began with a concert by the Ellington Air Force Base band. His speech was preceded by a commemorative address by John J. Herrera, first national vice president of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

Mr Truitt, a Californian, commended those "Texans by choice rather than by birth" that were responsible for the holiday of San Jacinto, and voiced a plea for the education of our youth in the proper values of democracy.

"In Russia, the Soviets tell their children that the USSR is perfect—the social system, the government, the entire way of living. But what do we teach our children?" Mr Truitt asked.

"WE SAY OUR system is not perfect, which is strictly an alibi for our own shortcomings," Mr Truitt said. "Our individual thinking is sometimes wrong but not our system."

Mr Herrera, in a brief speech before placing the floral tribute on the monument, compared Gen Houston to another famous general, calling him "the Gen Douglas MacArthur of that era."

"The army of Texas was more than a rebel army just as the army of George Washington was more than an army of rebels," Mr Herrera said. "It was a group of embattled freemen, banded together to defend their inalienable rights against oppression, enslavement, and debasement."

HE POINTED OUT that their ranks were not made up of Anglo Americans alone, but of free men from all parts of the world, who, moved by their love for liberty, had rallied to its sacred cause.

Mr Herrera paid tribute to the Mexicans who fought with the army of Gen Houston.

"Along with Houston, Travis, and other patriots of the Texas Revolution, also fought the Seguins, the Garcias, the Flores, the Herreras, the Benavides, and many other Latin Americans whose names appear engraved for posterity in the San Jacinto Memorial," Mr Herrera said.

Cdr J. T. Rutherford, Department of Texas, Veterans of Foreign Wars, officially presented the colors aboard the Battleship Texas to Lloyd Gregory, chairman of the Battleship Texas Commission and vice president and general manager of THE HOUSTON POST.

ANNOUNCEMENT was made of the Summerfield G. Roberts $1,000 award at the special luncheon on the Texas. Mr Roberts, of Dallas, will present the award on San Jacinto Day, 1952, for the best article or essay that "perpetuates the memory and spirit of the people who fought for the ideal of Texas."

—POST Photos by Caroline Valenta

EDWARD TRUITT
We Must Teach the Truth

Texas Heartbeat

Mystery of the Twin Sisters--Or Were They Quads or Sextuplets?

By ED KILMAN 4/22/57

Great Guns Debate

TO ENLIVEN the observance of San Jacinto Day, C. S. Mitchell of La Ward reopens the mystery of the Twin Sisters.

KILMAN

For half a century, Texans have been debating as to what became of the famous little six-pounders which were the only artillery Sam Houston's army had in the battle that won Texas' independence. Were they brass cannon, or iron? Old-timers who saw them disagreed violently on this question. And how many Twin Sisters were there, anyhow?

Two little iron cannon in front of the State Capitol at Austin are popularly supposed to be the Twin Sisters, but they are not, according to historians. They were presented to the Republic of Texas by Gen Thomas J. Chambers after the battle of San Jacinto.

Mr Mitchell writes in to say that the Twin Sisters were iron field pieces, made in Cincinnati and presented to the Texan army in 1836 by citizens of that place. He says the presentation speeches were made by two little girls, twins aged nine—daughters of Dr C. N. Rice, a physician who had recently moved to Texas from Cincinnati. (One of the twin girls became Mr Mitchell's grandmother.)

Buried at Harrisburg

CONTINUING, Mr Mitchell's letter says: "For a number of years the Twin Sisters were in and around Houston, and in August 1865 they disappeared. An inquiry regarding the fate of these guns, in 1907, brought a statement from a Dr H. M. Graves, giving the following information:

"In August, 1865, Dr Graves, together with John Barnett of Gonzales, Ira Pruitt, Jack Taylor, and Sol Thomas, all recently discharged Confederate Veterans from Galveston, got off the train at Harrisburg and saw the Twin Sisters at the depot with a number of other cannon, to be shipped North.

"Holding a 'council of war,' the men decided these guns should never leave Texas. That night they stole the guns, and carried them some distance—half a mile or so—and buried them among some weeds and bushes—'so deep no damyankee would ever find them.'

"In this they were very successful. No one has found the guns to this day. The carriages, wheels and woodwork they destroyed."

Checking our historical sources for more light on the subject, we find Mr Mitchell's account confirmed by a more detailed article—by Mr Mitchell. It is published in Jesse A. Ziegler's book, "Wave of the Gulf."

Market Square Playthings

ANOTHER absorbing piece about the cannon was found in Dr S. O. Young's "True Stories of Houston and Houstonians." Dr Young recalled the report that they were buried near Harrisburg; another that they were sunk in Galveston Bay near Virginia Point; another that they were preserved in the National Museum in Washington. He didn't know which, if any, of these stories were true; but he was positive that the Twin Sisters were brass. He said he saw them as a boy on the northwest side of Houston's market square.

"They were beautiful guns," he said, "and each bore this inscription, engraved just in front of the vent: 'Presented to the Republic of Texas by the Ladies of Cincinnati.'

"These guns seemed to be under no particular care and the boys pulled them about, sighted them and mowed down whole imaginary armies of Mexicans and Indians and played with them to their hearts' content. They were as familiar objects on market square as are Dick Dowling's monument and the fountain to those of today. . . . These guns were used by a Confederate battery during the war, but in 1871 or 1872 I saw one of them near the land office in Austin. . . . I was a bit amazed when I saw the Twin Sisters referred to as iron pieces and as having plates screwed on their sides stating that they were presented to the Republic of Texas by Gen Chambers. . . ."

Salute to the Hero

DR YOUNG was further confused by an account in Frank Lubbock's memoirs of the iron guns known as the "Twin Sisters" being turned over to Texas by Louisiana during or after the Civil War. He finally concluded that there were four guns instead of two. Others suggested that there must have been even more than four.

Incidentally, Dr Young recalled how the Twin Sisters—or one of them—was last fired before they were turned over to the Confederate Army. In 1860, when news of Sam Houston's election as governor was received, his friends got them to fire a victory salute.

"The guns were taken to a grassy hill, corner of Fannin and Commerce Streets. One gun was fired and a bag of powder was rammed down the other, but when they started to prime the piece they found some one had spiked it. They rushed to the other gun, but found it spiked also. That broke up the salute, of course, but it was a fitting thing that the last time one of the Twin Sisters spoke in time of peace should have been in honor of the hero of San Jacinto."

Before that, veterans of the battle celebrated San Jacinto Day every year by firing a salute with the two guns.

Junk Yard Fate?

IN HIS published article, Mr Mitchell quoted Judge William P. Hamblen of Houston, a Confederate Veteran, as saying he had been familiar with the two guns that had been in Houston up to 1861. Judge Hamblen said the two guns sent to Texas by Louisiana in about 1861 were not the Twin Sisters, as was widely believed, and that the Twin Sisters never left Texas. Mr Mitchell concluded that the guns from Louisiana had been sent there for refurbishing, and that the plates bearing the inscription were put there in error by Louisiana authorities.

Mr Ziegler, author of the book containing the article, was of the opinion that the originals were brass or bronze. "Most certainly this was true of the two little cannon I saw many times in Galveston at the Artillery Hall. This was about the year 1874." He said the Twin Sisters were occasionally transported from Houston to Galveston for use in celebrations.

"Mr John Sloan tells me he recalls seeing the guns there as late as 1905. Afterwards, I was told that they had found their way to a junk yard, being sent North and melted on account of the scarcity of brass. If these be the original Twin Sisters then were Dr Graves and his comrades in error in their belief that they had buried the original guns . . . or had someone meanwhile dug them up and restored them to public exhibit?"

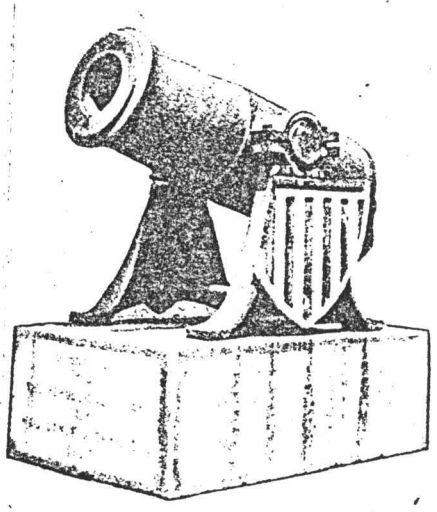
Three Sets of Twin Sisters

MR ZIEGLER was inclined to the theory that they had been junked and melted down, though he said there was a strong probability that Dr Graves buried the real Twin Sisters.

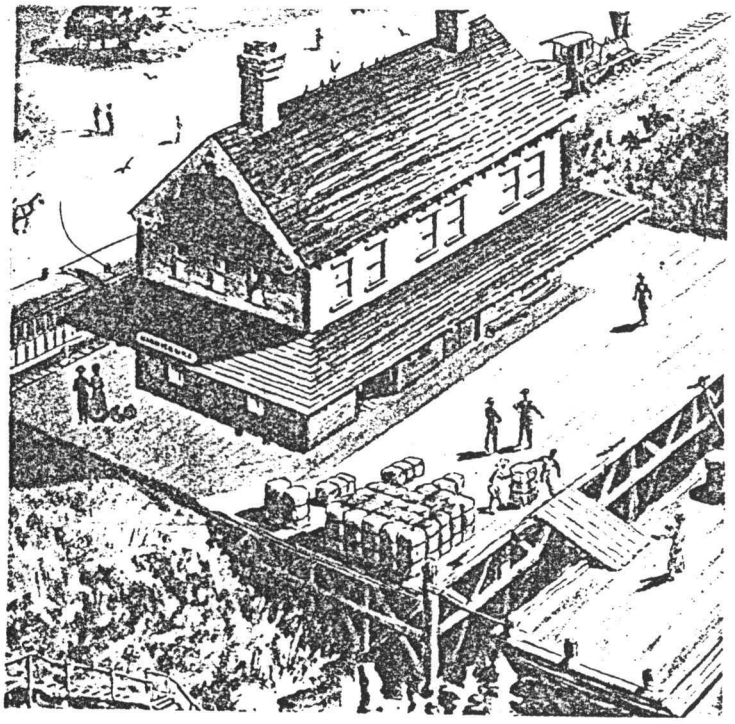
"Either that, or perhaps he buried the alleged Twin Sisters that were returned to Texas by the state of Louisiana and forwarded to Galveston in the early part of 1861. . . .

"As it stands, I can name three sets of 'Twin Sisters': the original ones, made of bronze or brass, which were brought from Cincinnati; the iron pair now on the lawn of the capitol of Texas, presented by Gen Chambers (and certain historians record that Gen Chambers really presented six such cannon to the Republic of Texas); and the pair of 'Twin Sisters' uncovered last year at Mission La Bahia, Texas, and at first popularly supposed to be the original Twin Sisters."

Dr Graves recalled that the buried cannon were hidden in a shallow hole about half a mile from the Harrisburg depot. After 40 years he tried to find them and failed; the topography and environment had changed too much, he said. Maybe a mass search would unearth them. And, as Mr Mitchell suggests, if they could be found the inscription on them might solve the perennial mystery of the Twin Sisters' fate.



Although not the famed "Twin Sisters," the two cannon shown here, which are at the entrance to the State Capitol in Austin, resemble the lost artillery pieces of San Jacinto, and actually were used in other actions of the Texas war for independence.



It was at this terminal of the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado Railway in Harrisburg that the "Twin Sisters" were reportedly sighted by Confederate soldiers in 1865, and buried nearby. The old line has since been absorbed by the Southern Pacific.

'I'd Like to Come Back,' Says Mac

+ Chr., 6/15/51

General MacArthur is gone but he'd like to return to Houston some day, he told a reporter Friday.

"You have been so wonderful to us here," the general said, just before he boarded his plane at Municipal Airport, "I'd like to return some day.

"I am under great obligation to your city. I don't have to wish you luck because Houston is doing so well already. Thank you for your kindness."

All Aboard

The general, Mrs. MacArthur, young Arthur MacArthur, and other members of the party boarded the big four-engine Constellation, the door was closed, and the plane took off for San Antonio exactly on schedule at 9 a.m.

A sparse crowd of less than 100 persons was waiting at the airport when the MacArthur party arrived from the Shamrock at 8:47 a.m.

As the general left the hotel a handful of admirers, about two dozen, were on hand to see him off. He shook hands there with friends and some officials, then piled into a car with his wife and son.

A little girl waved as the motor caravan moved down Holcombe to Old Spanish Trail. "I saw him! I Saw him!" she yelled.

The general had a special handshake for the members of the police security squad who guarded him since his arrival. No member of the squad had more than four hours sleep since General MacArthur came to town Wednesday evening.

Following the general up the ramp were the other members of his staff. His aide, Gen. Courtney Whitney was the last, then the door closed, the field was cleared, and the engines started.

At 8:58, the plane rolled to the end of the runway, the engines were checked, and the general was off for San Antonio and Dallas.

The visit of a famous American general was over.

Photo by Stan Begam, Chronicle Staff

WHERE ANOTHER GREAT GENERAL fought for freedom, Gen. Douglas MacArthur paused Thursday to pay tribute. He is shown placing a wreath at the base of San Jacinto Monument, where Gen. Sam Houston defeated the Mexican army to win freedom for Texas.

Saga of the Twin Sisters

Chr., 4/20/52

Clue to Cannon Worth $500

BY ZARKO FRANKS
Chronicle Staff

The cold hand of history, dealer in finely sifted facts, may not embrace this story in its full-bodied essence.

This San Jacinto Day tale hangs on the Twin Sisters—two iron cannon—the origin of their name, their disappearance and an old man's offer of a $500 reward for their recovery.

What man or child doesn't know about Sam Houston's daylight attack on Santa Anna on April 21, 1836?

A $500 Reward

To the strains of "Won't You Come to the Bower?" and the pounding fury of the Twin Sisters, the Texans swooped down at siesta time on the frijole-stuffed Mexican army.

The importance of the Twin Sisters has never been minimized since their noble service on the ringing battlefield.

Now a man named C. S. Mitchell—he's offering the reward—of La Ward, Texas, tells his story of how the sobriquet "Twin Sisters" was tacked on the two now-famous six-pounders.

Gift of Cincinnati

History says that the cannon were a gift from the citizens of Cincinnati to the Republic of Texas.

Mr. Mitchell relates that when the cannon were shipped south "it was by pure coincidence" that a Dr. Charles W. Rice and family, including his two little twin daughters, rode on the same Texas-bound coach from Cincinnati.

The two cannon and the Rices arrived together somewhere in Texas in 1836. The twins, Mr. Mitchell says, made a little speech in presenting the guns to Texas. Thus the name.

"I know this is a fact," Mr. Mitchell relates. "Because one of those little girls, Elizabeth, was to become my maternal grandmother."

Sold for Scrap

What was the fate of the Twin Sisters after their contribution in shaping the destiny of an infant republic?

Mr. Mitchell will pardon this interruption of his story.

History says the two cannon were sold for scrap iron. Some 25 years later they were discovered in a New Orleans junk yard.

There the rust-chewed cannon were recognized as a parcel of a new state's heritage. On March 4, 1861, the guns, buffed to a gloss, returned to Texas. Each bore this inscription:

"This gun used with terrible effect at the battle of San Jacinto, presented to the State of Texas by the State of Louisiana."

Forgotten in Turmoil

The Twin Sisters arrived at a railway depot in Houston. History concedes, also, that they were forgotten during the turmoil of the Civil War.

The general theory of most historians is that the Sisters were dismantled and sold for scrap iron a second time.

Now it is Mr. Mitchells' turn to interrupt. He feels the two cannon are still somewhere in Houston. He bases his claim on a now yellowed letter he received in 1909 from a Dr. H. M. Graves, a Confederate veteran.

"Thrown Into Bayou"

Mr. Graves claimed that he and several other returning Rebel soldiers recognized the Twin Sisters at the depot in Houston.

"We rolled the guns off some distance, burned the woodwork and threw the iron work into a bayou," Dr. Graves wrote Mr. Mitchell. "We did this to insure that the guns would forever remain in Texas where they belonged. We took an oath, swearing secrecy, to prevent the guns from falling into Yankee hands."

What bayou, Mr. Mitchell narrows the search down to either Bray's or Buffalo Bayou, in the vicinity of the old Harrisburg (now Houston) depot.

Mr. Mitchell says he is prepared to give the finder $500 for these guns, "if delivered to me free of controversy."

Victory Over Mexicans -- and a Beautiful Park Commemorates It

BY CHESTER ROGERS
H. Chr., Staff Writer 4/20/52

A SMALL BAND of Texas patriots 116 years ago tomorrow changed the history of a large part of our world. It was then that they won Texas independence in a battle staged on the 460 acres which now comprise the San Jacinto Memorial Park.

It is a far cry from the day of Gen. Sam Houston's gallant little army with its battle call of "Remember the Alamo" to the park site as it is today, with its close-cropped grass, neat flower beds, trimmed hedge, paved walks and acres of pleasant shaded picnic sites.

The park is fast becoming one of the top tourist attractions in this part of the country, and it is still a popular rendezvous for family gatherings and outdoor picnickers throughout most of the year.

Five miles of roads furnish access to the remote corners of the park provided with 34 stone picnic sets, comprised of benches and tables. If these are all in use on special occasions, the crowds spill out on the sides of the rolling hills, play softball, or spread their picnic lunches out under the trees.

Two major attractions draw tourists through the area, the San Jacinto Monument with its highly rated museum, and the Battleship Texas, navy veteran of two world wars.

The San Jacinto Monument has an elevator which takes tourists to the top of the 570-foot structure, the highest piece of monumental masonry in the world. The elevator, which takes tourists to the observation room near the top of the structure, carried some 480,000 visitors last year. There were also uncounted thousands who only visited the museum proper.

About the same number of people visited the Battleship Texas. Some of these visitors are relatives of men who formerly served aboard it. Often there are visitors who have never seen a battleship and just want to go aboard to see what it is like.

The monument was built in 1936-1939, and the Battleship Texas docked at the park site in 1948.

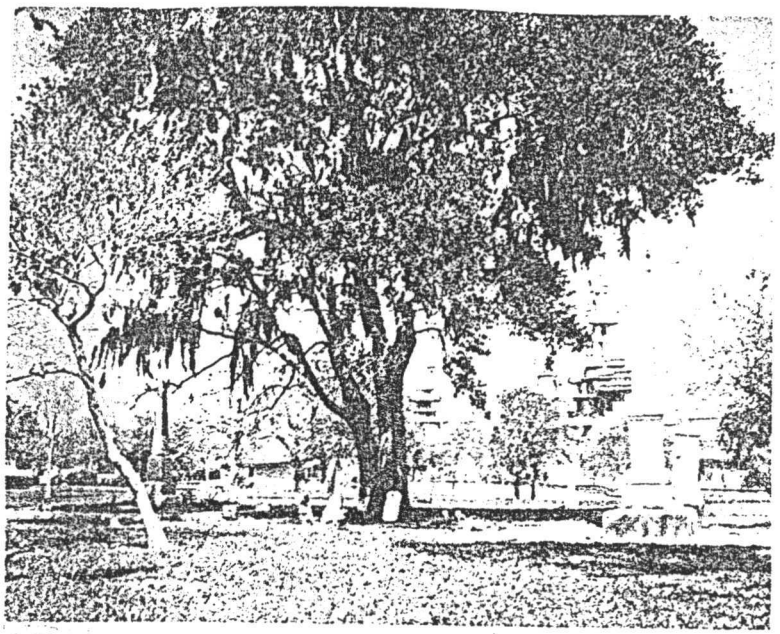
Linking the two tourist attractions is the park proper which is managed by O. P. Floyd, park superintendent for 25 years. He has a crew ranging from six to 10 men who maintain the park, do everything from mow the grass to paint the buildings, clean up the picnic sites, cultivate the flower beds, direct traffic, of pick up moss felled from the heavily festooned trees after a squall or storm.

An estimated 2500 rose bushes in the more formal area of the park, alongside the Houston Ship Channel, are usually their prettiest at this season of the year. In the fall the canesia on the roads flanking the huge reflecting pool in front of the monument is resplendent with its dainty purple blooms.

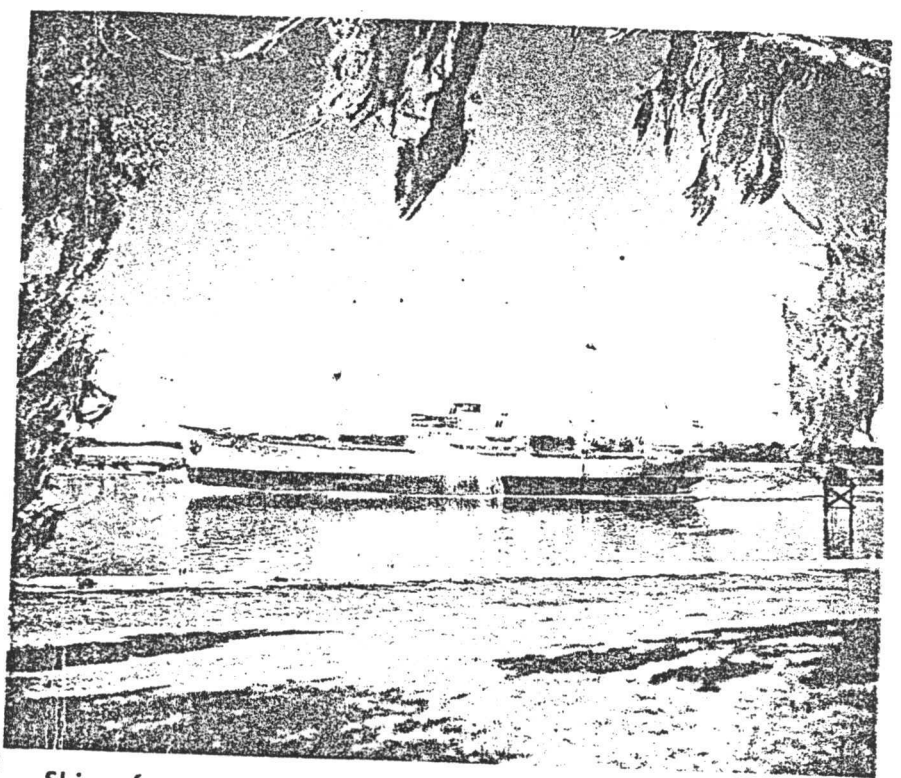
The San Jacinto Museum of History continuously presents new exhibits in its spacious halls devoted entirely to Texas history. One of the exhibits just recently finished is the material connected with Governor James S. Hogg, who was Texas' chief executive from 1891 to 1895.

Every facet of the varied history of Texas under six flags and even prehistoric times is represented in the museum's exhibit cases in one manner or another. It is a fascinating place for serious students of history as well as the mildly curious.

Many Houstonians and their neighbors from other parts of Texas have devoted time and resources to the establishment and advancement of the San Jacinto Memorial Park, its museum, its Battleship Texas, and the park proper—and their efforts are paying big dividends, as an estimated 1,000,000 visitors will find relaxation within its boundaries during 1952.



Texan graves are in one corner of the park, the monuments reciting their gallantry in action.



Ships of many nations pass the battleground by way of the Houston Ship Channel. The N. & T. line's Atomena of Stockholm moves slowly along the channel.

San Jacinto Victory Unmatched In Ancient or Modern History

H. Post, 4/21/52

This is the one day of the year that is exclusively a Texas holiday. Any true Texan thrills with pride at mention of San Jacinto Day. It is the day on which Sam Houston and his little colonial army wrested Texas independence from the Mexican despot on the field of battle in 1836.

San Antonio has her Alamo, a shrine to the valor of Travis and the 180-odd other martyrs who fought to the death in the old mission to make Texas free. At Goliad, the ancient Spanish presidio stands as a somber monument to the 330 men of Fannin, massacred nearby. On the field of San Jacinto the Texians got their revenge. Shouting the battlecry, "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" they charged the camp of Santa Anna at siesta time and routed the picked troops of Mexico who outnumbered them three to two. In 18 minutes the battle proper was over, though the enraged colonists continued their execution in the neighboring sloughs until sundown. They killed about 650 Mexicans and captured 570, at a cost of eight Texas lives.

Nearly the entire population of Texas had fled toward Louisiana in the "Runaway Scrape" to escape the fury of the onrushing invaders. The colonists awaited in anguished suspense the outcome of the battle, which would determine whether they should return to their homes in safety and freedom, or seek asylum in the United States.

After the battle, Gen Houston sent a message to the fugitive families, reporting the complete defeat of the enemy and saying: "Tell them to come on and let the people plant corn."

Today, 116 years later, the victory of San Jacinto glitters with undimmed glory from the pages of history. Its significance developed even greater proportions than was evident in 1838, when the historian Pease wrote:

> The victory of San Jacinto, when considered in relation to its consequences to the victors, their country and the world, as well as the honor and glory justly acquired by the achievement, stands alone in the annals of human warfare. History, ancient or modern, presents no parallel.

A pilgrimage to the shine of San Jacinto on this day is a patriotic tonic. Go out to the field of battle, visit the towering monument, and recapture some of the fierce spirit of independence and love of country that fired the pioneers in that amazing conflict. It will make you a better Texan, a better American.

AT BATTLEGROUND RITES

H. Post, 4/22/52

National Monument To Houston Urged

By ELLEN MIDDLEBROOK

Texans, with their devotion to bigness, ought to raise a huge monument to Gen Sam Houston in Washington, DC, and inscribe it with these words: "He never sacrificed principle for political expediency."

This suggestion was made by Former Rep Ed Gossett Monday to the hundreds of Texans(and at least one Australian) gathered at the San Jacinto Battleground monument to pay tribute to the San Jacinto heroes.

MR GOSSETT spoke from the monument steps under a hazy sky and into a stiff breeze that set up a roar in the public address system and toppled over the flower arrangement at the speaker's table. But in spite of the roar, the former congressman's words were heard distinctly.

His address wound up the official holiday program that started with the presentation to the San Jacinto museum of a painting of the late George A. Hill Jr, founder and first president of the museum.

The luncheon at the San Jacinto Inn was attended by scores of men and women who have kept alive the history of San Jacinto and kindled interest of Texans throughout the state in preserving historical relics.

FIVE DESCENDENTS of Gen Sam Houston were present and at least six descendants of Gen Sidney Sherman, second in command at the San Jacinto Battle, were there.

The Battleship Texas was crowded with visitors up until mid-afternoon, and family picnic spreads were scattered from the battleship back past the monument. One group of picnickers kept up a lively baseball game on the edge of the Ship Channel.

In tribute to the fighters for independence of 116 years ago, Mr Gossett said their victory was actually a triumph of spiritual things over material things —a victory of democracy over totalitarianism.

As for Sam Houston, American history has no parallel for the man who gave up two governorships and a possible chance of becoming the President of the United States "because he refused to compromise his principles," Mr Gossett said.

HE SAID THE general deserves a monument in Washington "bigger and grander than those of Lincoln, or Jefferson or Washington" because Sam Houston was "matchless."

Former Staff Sgt Macario Garcia, Congressional Medal of Honor winner, assisted in the laying of a wreath at the monument base in memory of the 27 Latin American heroes of San Jacinto.

John J. Herrera of the League of United Latin American Citizens reminded that the Mexican Texans joined in the fight in a "love of freedom and hatred of tyranny." Mr Herrera and his son, John Michael Herrera, 17, who are eighth and ninth generation Texans, joined Mr Garcia in placing the wreath at the base of the monument.

L. R. Bryan Jr, president of the Second National Bank and treasurer of the museum, pointed out that Mr Hill's work in establishing the museum had "revisualized the history of Texas and this region" and had extended and diffused the knowledge of Texas history.

MRS HILL presented the painting of her late husband. Her two sons, George A. Hill III and Raymond Hill, were present.

The founder's grandfather, James Monroe Hill, who fought in the battle of San Jacinto, had an abiding faith that the succeeding generations of Texans would fully commemorate the early historical events of the state, Mrs Hill said.

The Australian attending the ceremony was 15-year-old Bill McCall, who is touring the United States alone. He said he inquired at a tourist agency about sightseeing tours and was told about the San Jacinto ceremonies.

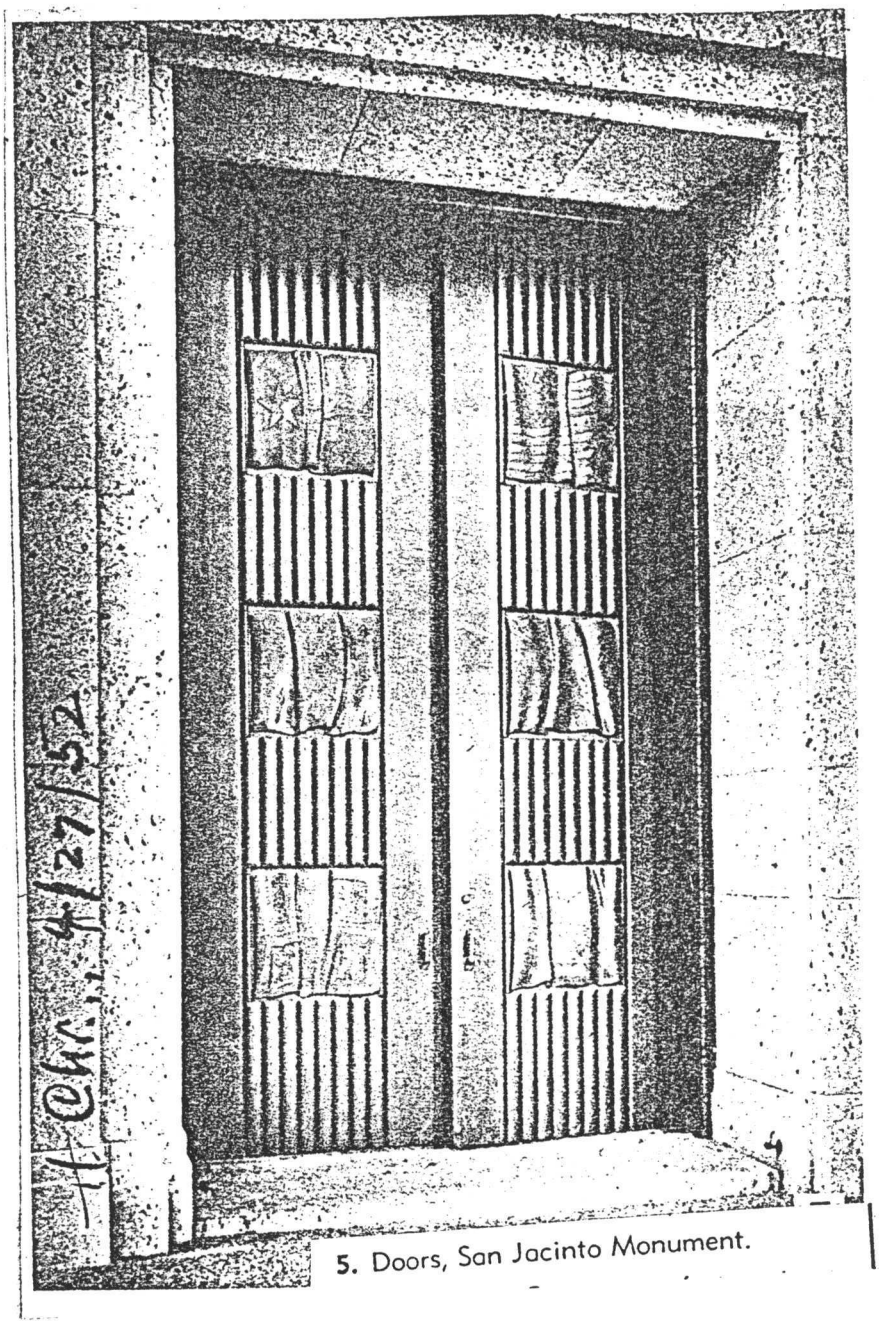
He stared at what he was told was the largest shaft in the world and remarked that, "In El Paso, they told me they had the biggest smoke stack in the world."

SAM HOUSTON descendants at the luncheon included Mrs Jennie Morrow Decker, 3208½ Smith St; Franklin Williams, 1117 Milford St, and his sister, Mrs Madge W. Hearne, 1904 Dunlavy St, all grandchildren of the general, and Houston Hearne, 257 Alpine Drive, and Mrs James A. Darby, 2147 Inwood Drive, great grandchildren.

Among descendants of Gen Sherman were Judge Wilmer B. Hunt of the 133rd Judicial District Court, a great grandson; Mrs W. Sperry Hunt, mother of Judge Hunt; Grainger and Lennie Hunt, children of Judge Hunt; Miss Annie Hume of Houston, and Russell and William T. Kendall.

The luncheon and the address were sponsored by the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas. Charles R. Tips of Dallas, president of the Sons of the Republic, and Mrs Hally Bryan Perry, co-founder of the San Jacinto chapter of the Daughters of the Republic, spoke briefly at the luncheon.

FOUNDER HONORED—A painting of the late George A. Hill Jr, founder of the San Jacinto Museum of History, was presented to the museum Monday by the oilman's widow. In the usual order, Raymond and George A. Hill III, sons of the founder; Mrs George A. Hill Jr, and L. R. Bryan Jr.—POST Photo by Dick Pervin



5. Doors, San Jacinto Monument.

San Jacinto Centennial Almost Celebrated Three Years Too Soon

BY CHESTER ROGERS
Chronicle Staff

When was the date of the first San Jacinto Day memorial celebration?

It is listed in the Handbook of Texas, recently published by the Texas Historical Association, as April 21, 1857.

A plaque at the Sun Dial memorial given by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas lists the first celebration as 1853.

Both dates are wrong, the staff of the San Jacinto Memorial Museum has determined. The first San Jacinto Day celebration was April 21, 1856, a date disclosed after extensive research in newspaper files stored at the San Jacinto Monunment, the staff is now convinced.

There is a saying among historians that the only ones who make no mistakes are those who do nothing. Early historians often relied on handed-down information, sometimes without source.

On the inscription gracing one of the panels near the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Sun Dial, a memorial to the nine men who fell in the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836, the year of the first San Jacinto Day meeting is fixed as 1853.

Inscription

The inscription reads: "The movement to set apart San Jacinto Battlegrounds as a patriotic shrine was begun in 1853, when a group of Texas Veterans assembled here started a fund for a monument to the nine men who fell in the battle."

From the files of the Galveston Weekly News, dated April 29, 1856 (on file at the San Jacinto Museum of History), was copied the following:

"San Jacinto—A brilliant celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto took place at the battleground on the 21st. A barbecue was given during the day, and a ball at night. The Washington Light Guards, from Galveston) were present.

"Interesting Part"

"The most interesting part of the proceedings was the determination of the assembled people to erect a suitable monument upon the battleground, over the remains that now lie there without a mark.

"The following resolutions were offered by F. R. Lubbock and unanimously adopted:

"Resolved. That it is the sense of the 'Texas Military Institute,' the Washington Light Guards, and this assembled multitude, that at every celebration of the Battle of San Jacinto, at this place, that a collection be had for the erection of a suitable monument over those heroes who fell at the Battle of San Jacinto and are buried upon the battleground."

Seeds Grow to $5000

The seeds of patriotism planted at that early date grew into a fund of more than $5000 through unstinted efforts on the part of the San Jacinto chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, until the monument became a reality with the erection of the Sun Dial memorial.

This information was gained from a file of letters and reports compiled by Mrs. J. J. McKeever of Houston, who was president of the San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, in 1901. Her father, John Fenn, was a veteran of the battle in 1836.

Mrs. Leland Hamner of 2305 Claremont Lane, who does a great deal of historical research for the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and who has compiled many articles on the history of the San Jacinto Chapter, and other matters, searched Mrs. McKeever's files to find the 1853 date.

Preparations were already under way this year to celebrate the centennial of San Jacinto Day, but when research in files of the Galveston News of a century ago uncovered the later date, 1856, the centennial was postponed three years hence. The Houston Weekly Telegraph of the same year confirmed the date of the first celebration.

The 1853 date is widely used in historical files.

The 1857 date appears in the article on the San Jacinto battleground in the recently released Handbook of Texas. This article was written by Andrew Muir of 946 Cortlandt, in Houston, whose grandfather, Thomas J. Ewing, came to Texas in 1836, and operated a sawmill at Shepherd Dam, where River Oaks now is located.

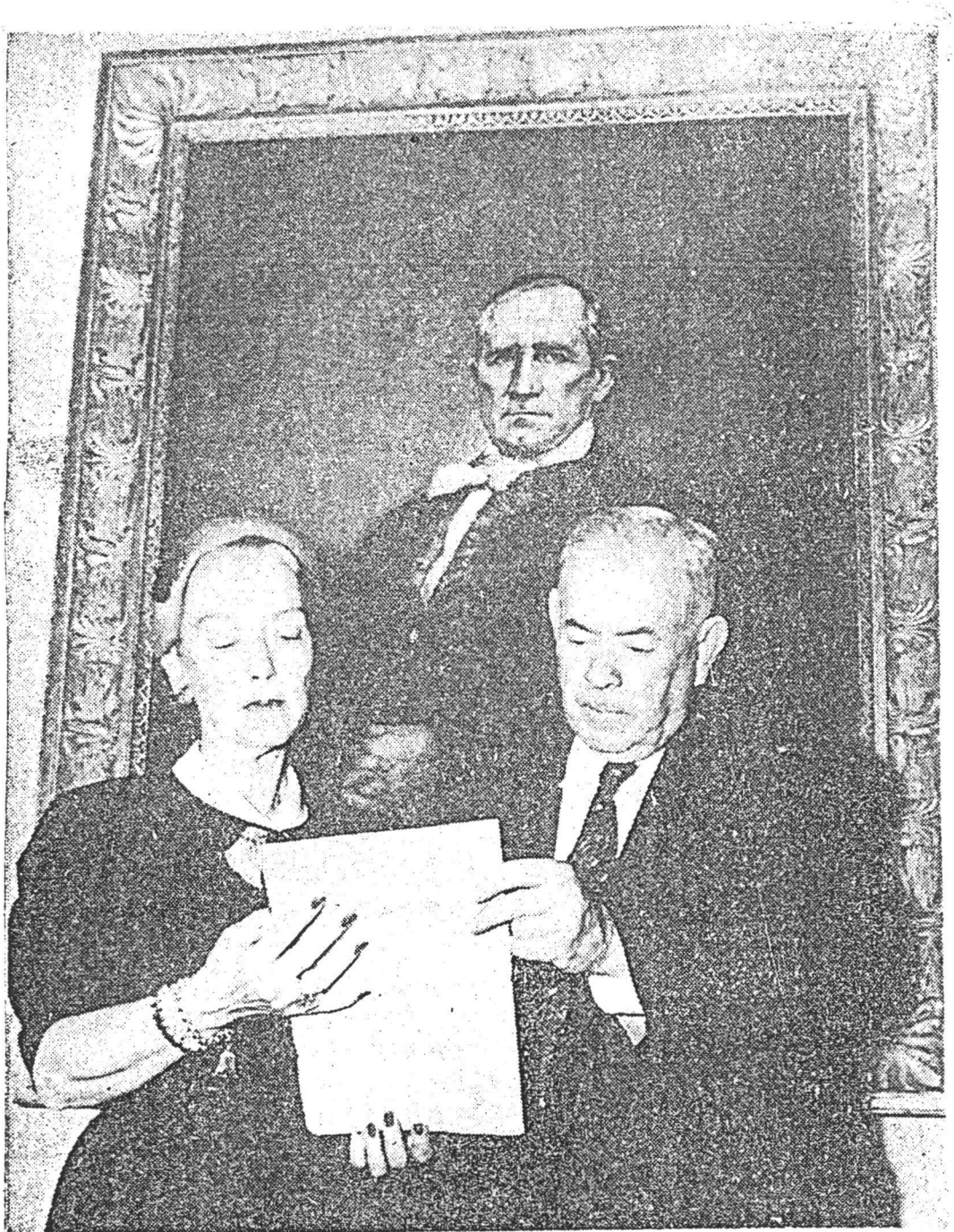
Writing County History

Mr. Muir, now in Cameron writing a history of Milam County, told The Chronicle that he intended the date in his article in the Handbook of Texas to be 1856.

"I do not have my material on the article with me, so I cannot say whether it was a printer's error or my error," he said. "But the 1856 date is correct."

San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic, already has plans under way for correcting the plaque at the Sun Dial.

Today, 97 years later, loyal Texans, joined by men, women and children from all parts of the world, join in celebrating San Jacinto Day at a 455-acre park area containing both the San Jacinto Monument and the Battleship Texas.



SAM HOUSTON'S PRE-BATTLE LETTER —Two weeks before the battle of destiny at San Jacinto Battleground, Gen. Sam Houston penned a weary note to David G. Burnet, president of the new Republic of Texas. That letter, previously unpublished in its entirety, has been given to the San Jacinto Museum of History by Mrs. George A. Hill, Jr., left. At the right is L. W. Kemp, president of the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, who accepted the document. They are shown in front of one of the portraits of the great Texas general at the museum.

In Letter 117 Years Ago Today

H. Chr., 4/6/53

Sam Houston Poured Heart Out

BY CHESTER ROGERS
Chronicle Staff

The fate of Texas still hung in history's unsteady balance when the tired leader of the handful of Texas volunteers sat alone in his camp.

The leader was Gen. Sam Houston. The camp was on the west bank of the Brazos River.

The time was exactly 117 years ago today.

While his undisciplined volunteers drilled to become a fighting force, General Houston sat down to pen a note to David G. Burnet, provisional president of the Republic of Texas.

That letter, previously unpublished in its entirety, dated April 6, 1936, is now proudly owned by the San Jacinto Museum of History at the San Jacinto Battleground.

The rare historical document, an original letter of Gen. Sam Houston, is a gift to the museum from Mrs. George A. Hill, Jr., 1604 Kirby Drive, wife of the late George A. Hill, Jr., who was president of the San Jacinto Museum of History Association at its inception.

L. W. Kemp, widely known historian and president of the San

Jacinto Museum of History Association, accepted the gift for the museum.

"Letters like this are rare these days," Mr. Kemp said. "You usually have to look them up in books."

Dr. Eugene C. Barker of the University of Texas compiled eight volumes of Sam Houston's letters. Doctor Barker included three sentences from the letter on Page 398, Volume 1, of "Writings of Sam Houston."

Students of history and admirers of Gen. Sam Houston will enjoy reading the bright facets of history he penned that day in his "Camp West of the Brazos."

The letter reads as follows:

"April 6, 1936

"Private.

"Dear Sir:

"A multiplicity of matters press upon me and my pressure has been of vast magnitude. I have not shrunk from any responsibility, nor will my situation allow me.

"The arrival of Col. Rusk was very grateful to me, and to others also. There will be no collision betwixt us, for I am assured that we have a common object, and that is to save Texas, and to repel the enemy.

"In December last I anticipated the past, and present crisis, and if the council had not defied everything like patriotism the first of March, would have brought us aid enough agreeably to my proclamation. I now hope for the best, and trust the panic will subside, and men repair to their duty. The enemy on yesterday at sunrise were on the Colorado, and no indication given as to their route. They are very cautious, and have scouted very little from their camp, as my spies report. If we were in striking distance of them, I would certainly attack them. San Felipe was burned down, tho not by order. This will lessen their inducements to a march upon the place.

"I hope Gritton and Barrett are seized and will be close guarded until such time, as they can be brought to trail! It will not do for suspicious persons to be left at large. Do send me all the news from the United States; and of a cheerful character. I have kept the army together under the most discouraging circumstances, and I hope that a just, and wise God, in whom I have always believed will yet save Texas, as a remnant, and that confusion, and dismay may yet seize our enemies and chastise them for their cruelties and oppression. I am sorry that I am so wicked, for the prayers of the righteous shall prevail.' That you are so—I have no boubt, and hope that Heaven, as such will bless, prosper you, and crown your efforts with success in behalf of Texas and humanity!

"I hope you will present me to Governor Zavala, and thank him for the compliment which I have received, and accepted in the person of his son!

"From Col. Rusk remaning here I hope much good and trust our country may find in the combined efforts of his army (under the blessing of Heaven) success.

"You will please to salute the Heads of the Department, and my friends who are interested in the welfare of Texas!

"I am very truly,
"Your friend
Sam Houston (signed)

A postscript noted further: "I expect under direction of the Secretary of War soon to complete the organization of the troops. Our men are in good spirits, and near 1000. I hear of more on their way to the army."

The letter was addressed on the back:

"To His Exy. D. G. Burnett (Sic) President of Texas.

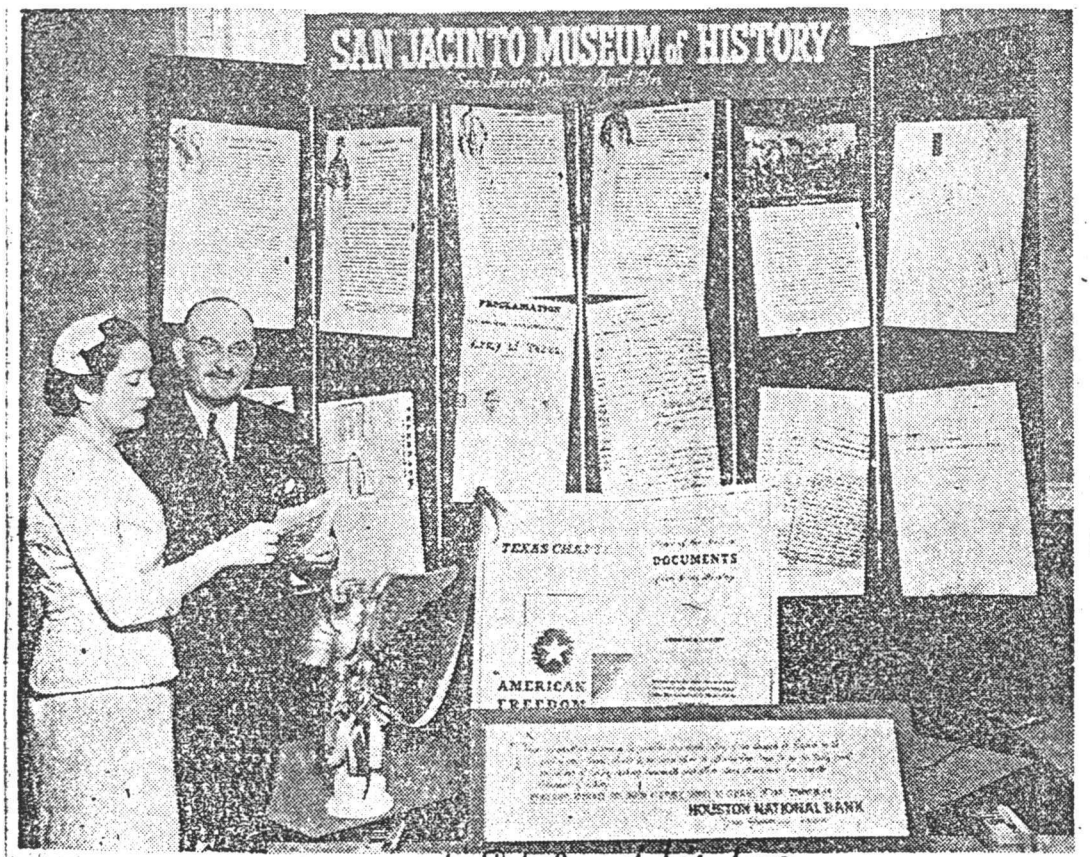
Still another postscript on the back of the letter adds this not on the times:

"Private Sam Houston to executive, 6 April 1936":

"The enemy's force can not exceed 1000 effective men—instead of the reported 30,000! Santa Ana is no doubt recalled (?) to the interior long since!—Houston."

The "Gritton and Barrett referred to in the Houston letter, Historian Kemp explains, were two men whose actions had aroused the suspicions of General Houston as to their loyalty. They were never proven guilty of any disloyalty.

An exhibit featuring the new gift to the San Jacinto museum is being arranged by Mrs. David W. Knepper, director of the museum.

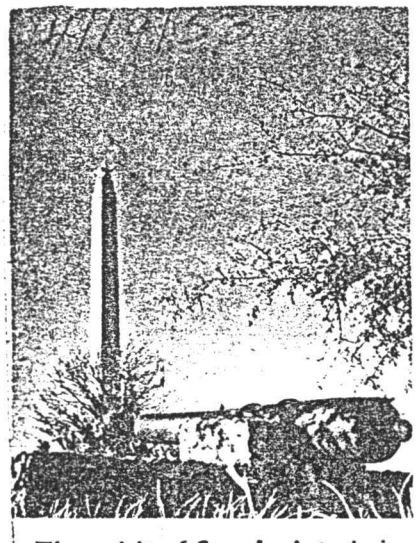


H. Chr., 4/16/53

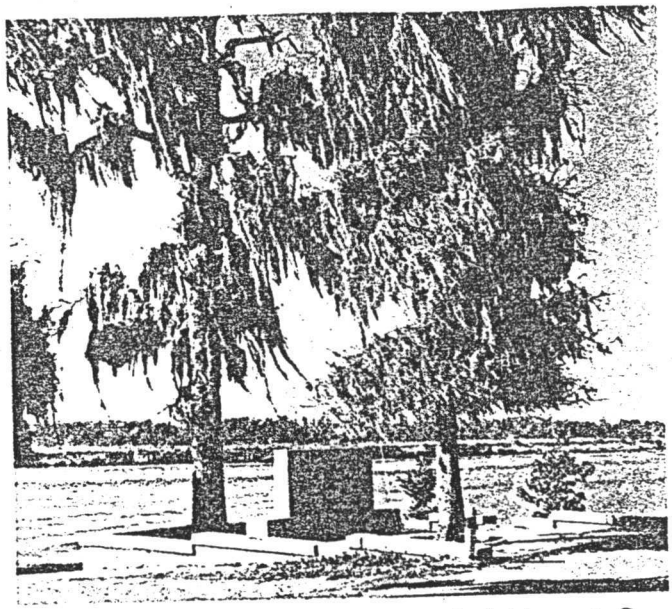
HISTORY-MAKING DOCUMENTS — Reproductions of some of Texas' most precious historical documents are in this display the Houston National Bank has set up in cooperation with the San Jacinto Museum of History to commemorate San Jacinto Day, next Tuesday. Mrs. Dorothy Knepper, director of the museum, and Melvin Rouff, president of the bank, are shown beside the display of photostatic enlargements of such documents as Travis' letter written from the Alamo, handwritten drafts of the Texas declaration of independence, a proclamation from Sam Houston seeking volunteers for the Texas army, and others. The display will remain in the bank's lobby through Saturday. Houston school children are especially invited to see it, Mr. Rouff said.

4/19/53

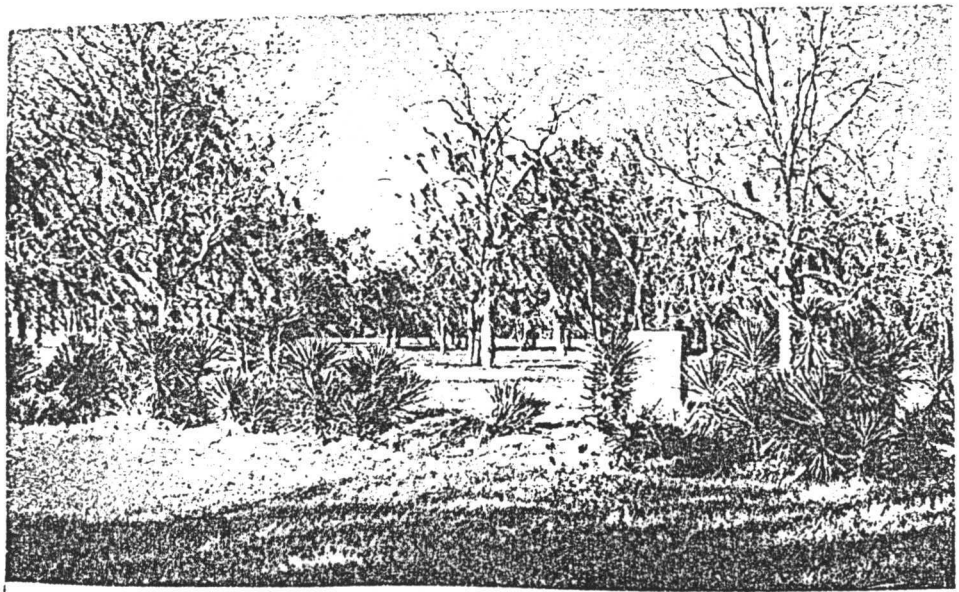
18 Minutes That Shook The World



The spirit of San Jacinto is interpreted in this silhouette of a cannon pointed toward the San Jacinto Monument.

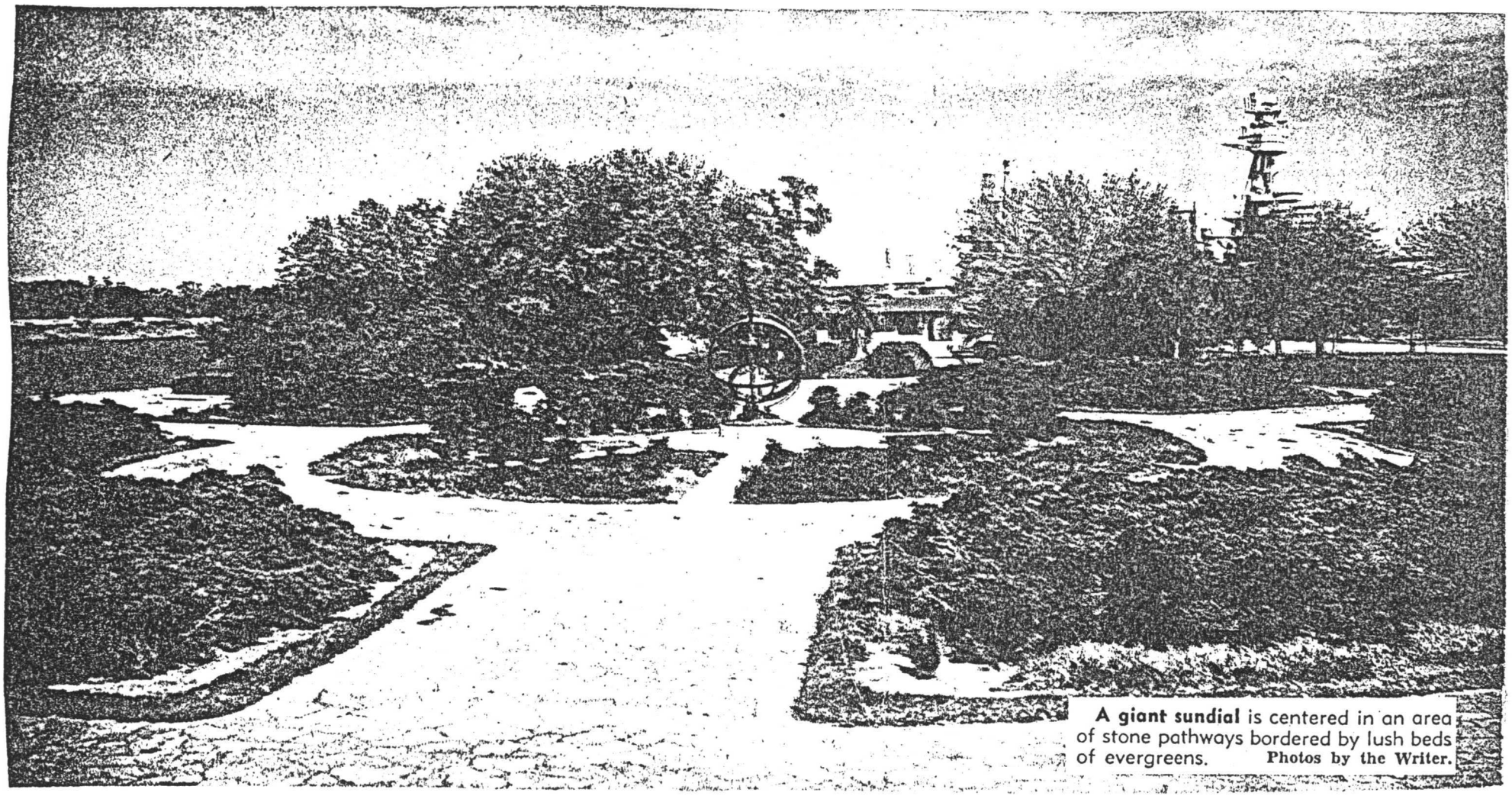


Under a big oak tree that occupied this spot, Gen. Sam Houston rested from the rigors of battle. It was on this spot that Santa Anna surrendered.

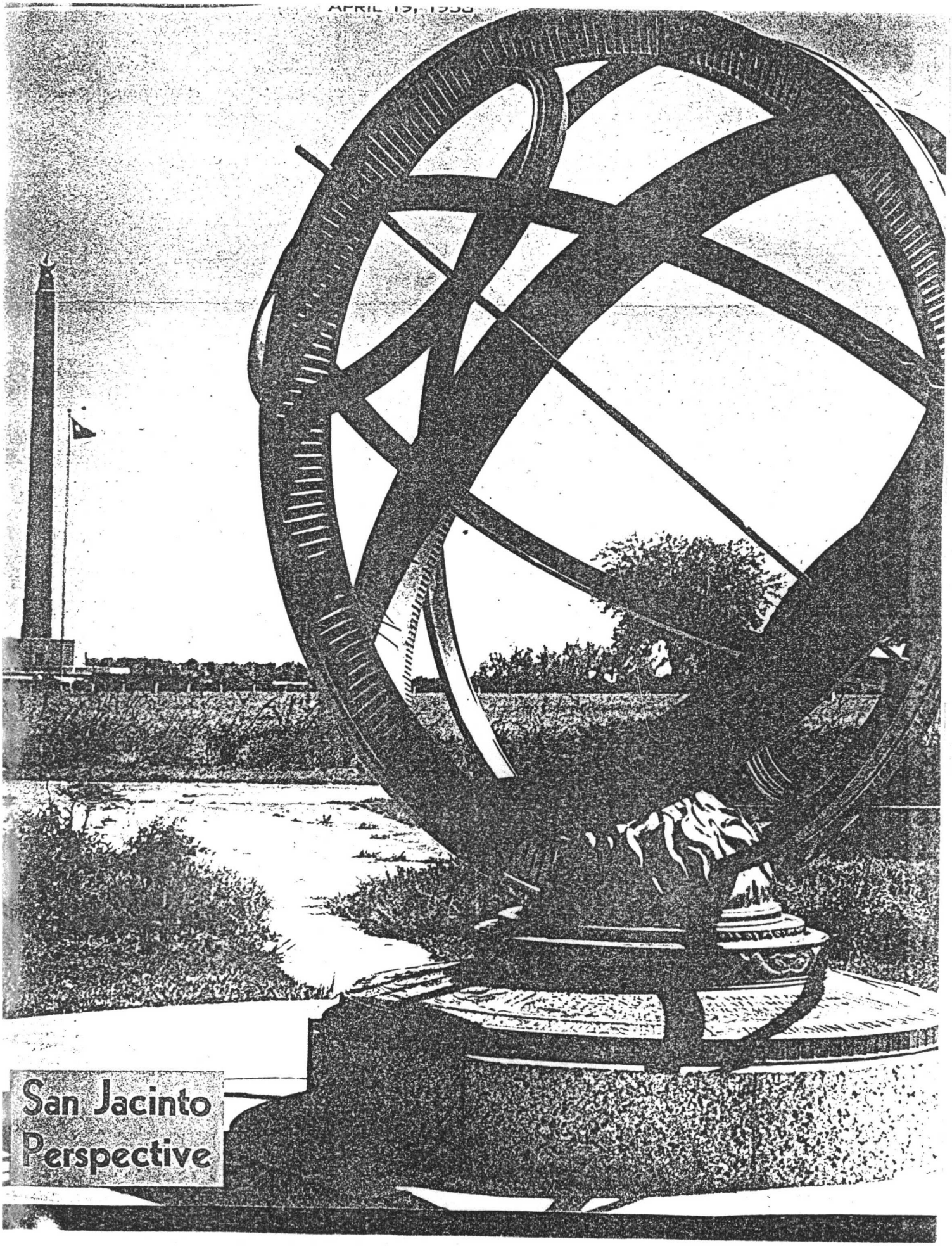


This row of cactus plants occupies the site of the Mexican breastworks in the decisive battle 117 years ago.

A giant date palm creates a tropical atmosphere on the walkway leading to a Masonic monument dedicated to Texas veterans at San Jacinto Park. A portion of the Battleship Texas may be seen in the background.



A giant sundial is centered in an area of stone pathways bordered by lush beds of evergreens. **Photos by the Writer.**



San Jacinto Perspective

THE San Jacinto Memorial Park is a well landscaped and interesting source of pleasure today for thousands of Houstonians and visitors.

It was different 117 years ago.

For on April 21, 1836, in what was then a wilderness of thick woods, grassy meadows, and marshes, the history of the New World was changed in a fierce 18 minutes.

Gen. Sam Houston, who led the Texan forces to victory over Santa Anna's army on that day and thereby won independence for the Lone Star Republic, told the story graphically in his account of the action to President David G. Burnet:

". . . At half past 3 o'clock in the evening, I ordered the officers of the Texian army to parade their respective commands, having in the meantime ordered the bridge on the only road communicating with the Brazos, distant eight miles from the encampment, to be destroyed—thus cutting off all possibility of escape . . .

". . . The first regiment, commanded by Colonel Burleson, was assigned to the center. The second regiment, under the command of General Sherman, formed the left wing of the army.

"The artillery, under special command of Col. George W. Hockley, inspector-general, was placed on the right of the first regiment, and four companies of infantry, under the command of Lieut. Col. Henry Millard, sustained the artillery on the right.

"Our cavalry, 61 in number, commanded by Col. Mirabeau B. Lamar . . . completed our line.

"OUR cavalry was first dispatched to the front of the enemy's left, for the purpose of attracting their notice, whilst an extensive island of timber afforded us an opportunity of concentrating our forces, and deploying from that point, agreeably to the previous design of the troops.

"Every evolution was performed with alacrity, the whole advancing rapidly in line through an open prairie, without any protection whatever for our men. The artillery advanced and took station within 200 yards of the enemy's breastworks, and commenced an effective fire with grape and canister.

"Colonel Sherman, with his regiment, having commenced the action upon our left wing, the whole line, at the center and on the right advancing in double quick time, raised the war cry, 'Remember the Alamo!' received the enemy's fire, and advanced within point blank shot before a piece was discharged from our lines.

"Our lines advanced without a halt, until they were in possesion of the woodland and the enemy's breastwork—the right wing of Burleson's and the left of Millard's taking possession of the breastwork; our artillery having gallantly charged up within 70 yards of the enemy's cannon when it was taken by our troops.

"The conflict lasted about 18 minutes from the time of close action until we were in possession of the enemy's encampment. . . . The rout commenced at half-past 4, and the pursuit of the main army continued until twilight . . ."

The site of the old Harrisburg station was in the vicinity of this cemetery near Erath Street and Buffalo Bayou. Near here, the "Twin Sisters" may be buried.

What Happened To The "Twin Sisters?"

San Jacinto's Famed Cannons May Be Buried Somewhere Near Here

BY CHESTER ROGERS
Staff Writer

Hchr., 4/19/53

ARE the two six-pound cannon, the "Twin Sisters" that helped Texas win its independence 117 years ago, still in existence?

Are they hopelessly lost? Are they buried at Harrisburg?

Recently, the San Jacinto Museum of History received a letter offering $500 reward for the two cannon which played such a major role in the history of Texas and the conquest of the West. The letter was written by C. S. Mitchell of La Ward, Texas, a grandson of Elizabeth Rice, one of the real twin sisters who were sponsors for the cannon when they were officially presented Texas by the City of Cincinnati.

The small guns were the only artillery that the Texans had when they attacked Gen. Santa Anna's army in the decisive Battle of San Jacinto, which occurred 117 years ago next Tuesday.

L. W. Kemp, widely known Houston historian, holds that no one knows their present whereabouts, and Kemp is an authority for he compiled a history of the guns from stories written by E. W. Winkler in the July, 1917, issue of the Southwestern Historical Quarterly, and by Mrs. Mamie Wynne Cox in the Dallas Morning News in 1936.

The cannon reached the Texan army at its camp at Groce's on the Brazos River on April 9, 1836, just 12 days before they were to do such effective work at San Jacinto.

Historical accounts credit David G. Burnet, president ad interim of the republic, with being the first person to call them the "Twin Sisters."

ANOTHER chapter was written in the saga of the cannon when Texas entered the Union. In 1849, the United States government removed the famous guns and other property from the depot at Galveston to Baton Rouge. On February 14, 1861, John C. Robertson, chairman of the committee on public safety of the Secession Convention of Texas, addressed a letter to George Williamson, commissioner from Louisiana to Texas, in which he asked that Louisiana lend Texas whatever spare arms Louisiana had, including the "Twin Sisters."

It was found that the famed cannon had been sold to a foundry in Baton Rouge and the Louisiana legislature appropriated $700 to repossess them and in April, 1861, the guns, polished and properly mounted, arrived in Galveston.

After that, the famed "Twin Sisters" disappeared again, as far as historical records go.

Mrs. Cox, in her article about the cannon, relates a conversation she had early in 1918 with Dr. H. N. Graves, who as a boy of 19 said he helped to bury what he thought were the "Twin Sisters" at Harrisburg in 1865.

Doctor Graves said he was one of about 400 Confederate soldiers en route from Galveston to Houston in 1865, and that when they got off the train at Harrisburg they saw a number of cannon of various sizes dumped by the side of the railroad track. Among them, Doctor Graves said, he saw the "Twin Sisters" and felt that they must be protected from vandalism at all hazards. He said he and four companions burned the wooden carriages and threw the metal carriage parts into the bayou. Then they rolled the cannon tubes 300 or 400 yards into the woods, where they buried them in a shallow grave.

MR. MITCHELL believes the cannon are still buried at Harrisburg. In his letter to the superintendent of the San Jacinto State Park, offering the $500 reward, he suggests the cannon, if found, be given a place of honor in the park museum.

His version of how the guns were named differs from that which credits President Burnet. He relates that late in 1835 or early in 1836, a delegation of Texans visited Cincinnati and solicited aid for Texas in its fight for independence. Their answer came in the form of two iron field pieces with brass plates on which was inscribed, "To the Republic of Texas, From the Citizens of Cincinnati." They were, to avoid complications, shipped to Texas as "holloware."

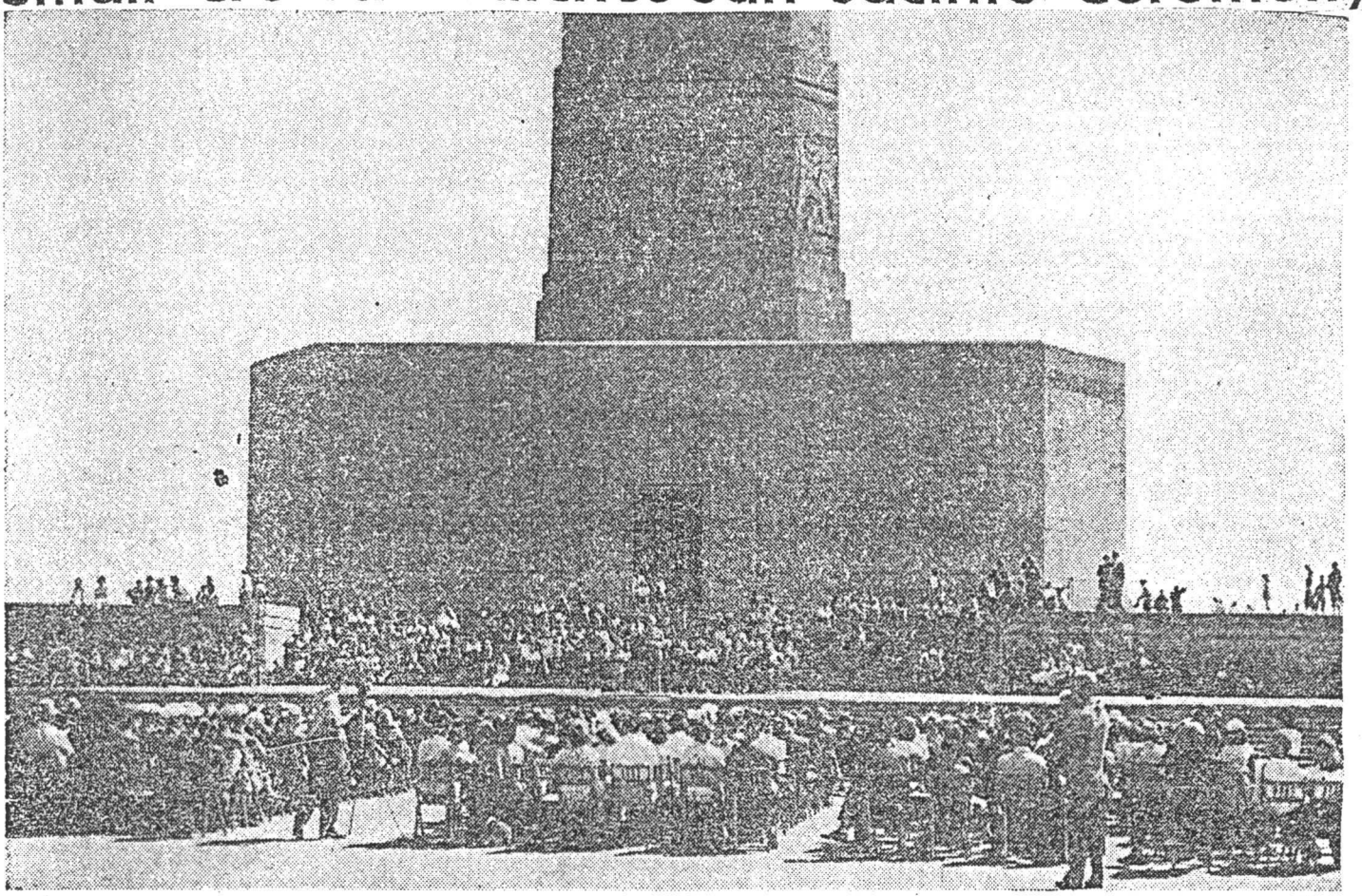
Now, by pure coincidence, relates Mr. Mitchell, the steamboat on which they were shipped, had as passengers a Dr. Charles W. Rice, his wife, and twin daughters, Elizabeth and Eleanora, aged 8.

On arrival of the ship at Galveston, someone proposed a ceremony in which the little girls would present the guns in the name of the citizens of Cincinnati. Someone dubbed the guns the "Twin Sisters," and the name stuck. One of the little girls, Elizabeth, became Mr. Mitchell's maternal grandmother.

Mr. Mitchell said Doctor Graves wrote him in 1909, relating that the cannon were buried among some weeds and bushes a half mile or so from the Harrisburg railroad station, which stood in the vicinity of Erath Street and Buffalo Bayou. Later, Doctor Graves, with Professor Charles Nagle of College Station, tried unsuccessfully to locate the missing cannon.

And there rests the story of the "Twin Sisters." Are they buried near where the old Harrisburg railroad station once stood? Perhaps residents of the area will one day provide the answer.

Small Crowd Watches San Jacinto Ceremony



REMEMBER SAN JACINTO?—Only a few did Tuesday, the 117th anniversary of the battle that carved freedom for Texas. Above, the crowd of about 300 persons listens to Guest Speaker Harold M. Martin, commander of the seventh fleet in Korea until a year ago, as he points up Texas famed history. Hugh Roy Cullen, after being tapped as a Knight of San Jacinto, said he was "happy to see some people patriotic enough to come out and do honors to the heroes of Texas . . . but I'm really embarrassed that this park is not full of Texans." He added that he believed the people are "not careful in practicing their patriotism."

H. Chr., 4/22/53

BY CHARLES A. FRANDOLIG
Chronicle Staff

Only a handful of loyal Texans —perhaps twice as many as the valiant 187 defenders of the Alamo—Tuesday attended ceremonies at the battlefield of San Jacinto where Texas won its independence 117 years ago.

Brief memorial services at the San Jacinto Monument testified to the courage and greatness of the men and women who carved the future of Texas a century ago.

Guest speaker at the ceremony was Vice-Adm. Harold M. Martin, who commanded the aircraft carrier San Jacinto during World War II.

"Nations—like people in their maturity—are a product of their heredity and experience," said the admiral, pointing out Texans' strong historical background.

He said that peace-loving nations must battle for the same principles today that Texans fought for at San Jacinto.

"The cause of the battle of Texas, that rights of the people and their personal liberty are in jeopardy, still exists," he said.

High light of the afternoon program, watched by approximately 300 persons, came when four men were initiated into the Knights of San Jacinto by Charles E. Gilbert, Jr., of Houston.

"The Knights of San Jacinto ranks in grandeur with the Order of the Roman Eagle, the Order of Garter of Britain," Commander Gilbert explained to the audience simply.

Hugh Roy Cullen, Franklin Williams, both of Houston; Dr. Valin R. Woodward of Arlington, and Charles R. Tips of Dallas, knelt before Gilbert, who tapped them on the shoulder with a sword once owned by Gen. Sam Houston.

"Arise, Sir Hugh Roy Cullen . . . arise Sir Franklin Williams," the knight commander's voice called out, after he had tapped each man.

Preceding the knighting of the outstanding Texans, John J. Herrera, national president of the League of United Latin Americans placed a wreath at the base of the monument in memory of the "Texas Mexicans who fought here."

"This wreath is also in behalf of all men who fought here," he said, "and those who are continuing to bring our country and Mexico closer together."

Prior to the ceremonies at the monument, a luncheon for the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas was held at the San Jacinto Inn.

Five descendants of Gen. Sam Houston were present, including Mr. Franklin Williams, past president of the San Jacinto Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

They were Sam Houston Hearne, Mrs. J. M. Decker, Mrs. Madge Hearne, and Mrs. C. R. Whittemore.

William T. Kendall, a Houston attorney, succeeded Mr. Tips as state president of the Sons of the Republic earlier Tuesday.

Other prominent Texans were elected at the meeting Tuesday morning to be knighted into the organization founded by Sam Houston after the battle of San Jacinto, and revived 12 years ago.

They were Jesse H. Jones, Col. William B. Bates, George D. Sears, Robert B. Morris, E. R. Broscie, John M. Moore, Jr., Hobart Huson, James Shaw and Olin Kendall. They will be inducted next year.

THOMAS, A NATIVE of San Augustine, Texas, and grandson of Col. Stephen W. Blount of San Jacinto fame, painted the portrait in 1892 in Paris. It was exhibited at the World Fair in Chicago in 1893, and in the place of honor in the French Salon in Paris for 16 years.

In January, 1921, it was presented by the artist to the City of Houston. Mayor A. E. Amerman accepted it for the city, and it was hung in the University Club, where it was unveiled by George O. John, great grandson of Houston. John, now a well-known attorney, was then a teenage youth.

Three years later it was moved to the Museum of Fine Arts, but its size, 14 by 10 feet, was too great for it to be properly displayed there. The Central Library found a place for it on the landing between the second and third floors. But few patrons go above the second floor, so the painting was seen by few Houstonians.

* * *

IT IS MORE FITTING that it hang in the state shrine where all visitors to the San Jacinto State Park may view it. The portrait, which helped make Thomas' artistic reputation, has influenced every work of art of Houston since it was painted.

It is doubtful if the painting will be moved again. It has found the logical place for it to hang permanently, after all these years.

* * *

THE MUSEUM at San Jacinto is one of the newest in the state, but already it has gathered a treasure of historical and artistic exhibits appropriate to the spot where Texas' independence was won. Each year sees new additions, such as the miniature of Sam Houston which had been treasured through the years by his family and was presented to the museum last year.

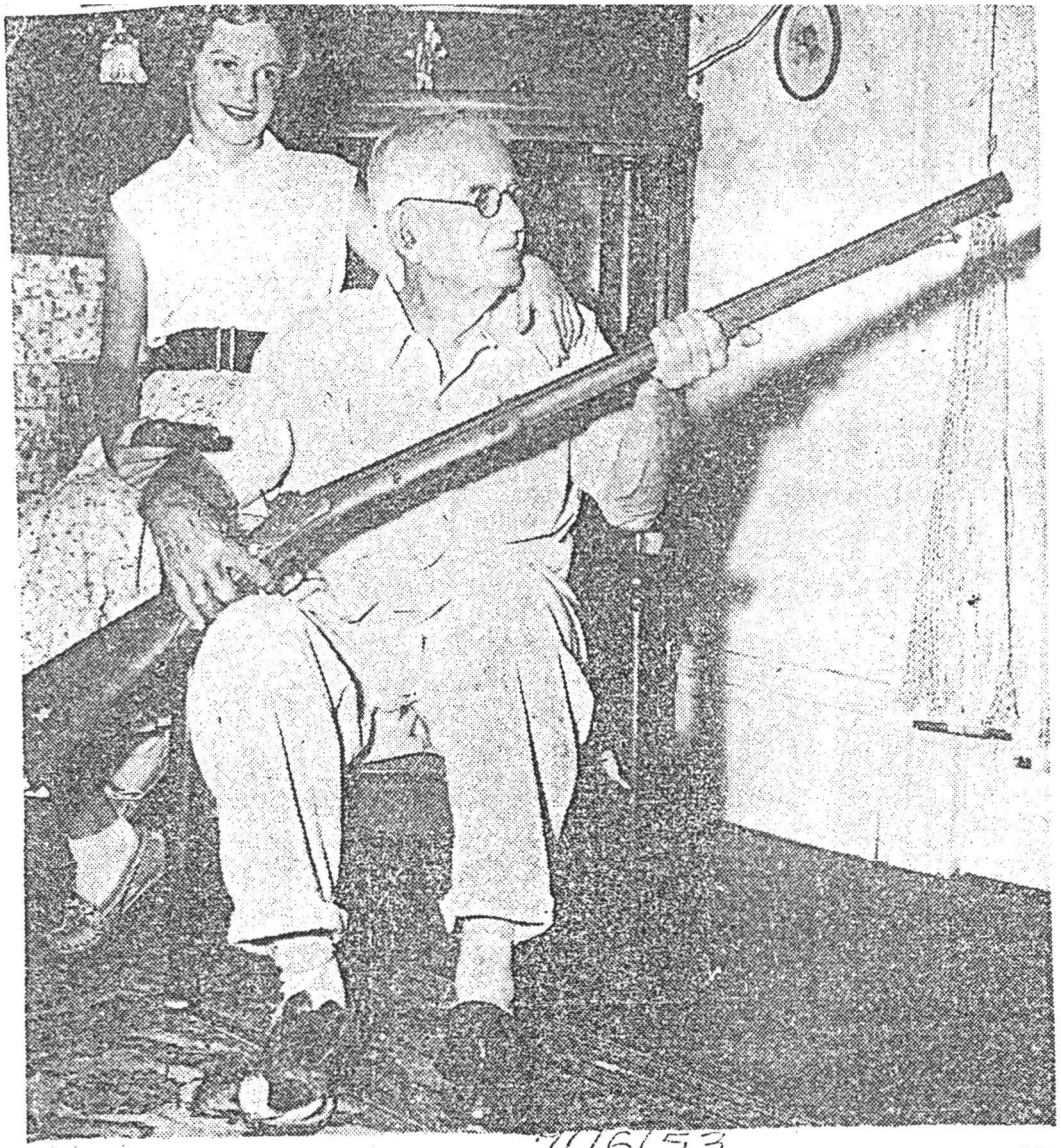
Many fine relics have drifted away from here during the years before the establishment of the museum. One that should hang in the San Jacinto Monument is the famous "Liberty or Death" flag, carried into the battle by youthful Sgt. James Austin Sylvester, color bearer of Company A, First Regiment of Texas Volunteers.

It was made by the ladies of Newport, Ky., and presented to Capt. Sidney Sherman before he led his band of Kentucky volunteers to Texas. It was the only flag flown in the battle by the Texans and was given after San Jacinto by the Republic of Texas to Sherman's wife, who had helped make it.

* * *

THE FLAG shows a figure representing the Goddess of Liberty, a sword in her left hand. From the sword waves a banner with the words "Liberty or Death." The Sherman family gave it to the State of Texas in 1896, and it was exhibited in the State Library for 29 years. Then it was moved to the Museum of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

It had become badly faded and had fallen to pieces in 1932, when the Texas legislature appropriated money to have it restored. Since then, in good state of preservation, it has overlooked the speaker's rostrum in the House of Representatives at Austin. Perhaps it, too, will find its way sometime to the only battlefield where it was under gunfire.



HISTORIC RIFLE—This weapon, presented to the San Jacinto Museum of History, formerly was owned by a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto, Charles Reese. Charles Reese III, 78, the owner's grandson, is shown with the weapon at his home at 3718 Jackson. His granddaughter, 13-year-old Kay Reese, holds a Derringer pistol, also found at the battle veteran's home in Cedar Lake, Texas.

A handsomely engraved rifle, rusted with age, was presented Thursday to the San Jacinto Museum of History by a descendant of a man who fought for early Texas liberty.

Museum officials accepted the weapon from Charles Keller Reese, III, 3718 Jackson, as a valued addition to their battle souvenirs.

Mrs. David W. Knepper, director of the museum, believes the rifle may have been used by Charles Reese in the Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836.

Although the battle lasted only 18 minutes, it swayed Texans' feeling from despair to victory with the ringing defeat of Mexican General Santa Anna. The short, furious battle gave Texas her independence.

Research Due

Mrs. Knepper said research to determine the age of the rifle would begin immediately.

Mr. Reese, 78-year-old grandson of the Battle of San Jacinto veteran, became owner of the rifle after his uncle recovered it from the family homestead in Cedar Lake, Texas.

The original owner of the rifle banded with other Texans in two important battles during those pated in the Mier Expeditions into Mexico.

Charles Reese was born in Tennessee on November 13, 1810. He came to Texas in February, 1830, as a member of Stephen F. Austin's colony.

Land office records show he was given a donation certificate for land because of his participation in the storming and capture of Bexar. This battle took place December 5-10, 1835.

In 1838 he received a bounty of 320 acres for time served in Robert J. Calder's "Brazoria Company."

Records Show Capture

As a captain commanding Company E, Charles Reese participated in the Mier Expedition. Battle records indicate he was captured while on one of the Mexican raids and interned in the Castle Perote prison.

But on July 2, 1843, he escaped the prison and returned to Texas.

After marrying Miss Sarah Tate, he settled down on his farm at Cedar Lake in Matagorda County. He died there October, 14, 1858.

His descendants in Houston include Charles Reese III; his son, Charles Reese IV, and 13-year-old Kay Reese, all of 3718 Jackson.

The rifle and a derringer pistol were given to the museum. The by an English gunsmith, is inscribed "Made for Chas K. Reese by I A Funk Son Schl."

Collection of Milam-McKinney Papers Given San Jacinto Museum of History

H. Chr., 1/24/54

BY CHESTER ROGERS
Chronicle Staff

A rifle ball found its mark, and a restless Texas frontier hero fell to the ground dead.

A big, massive frontiersman's hand paused, then resolutely, maybe a little fiercely, moved a quill pen to scratch its owner's name to the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The Texas patriots mentioned in these two brief paragraphs, Benjamin Rush Milam, killed by a rifle ball, and Collin McKinney, one of the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence, left a legacy of their starring roles in Texas history in a collection of letters and papers.

A collection of 103 of these papers, treasured and tenderly kept by their descendants for well over a century, has now found a permanent place of honor in the files of the San Jacinto Museum of History.

General Sam Houston, commander of the Texas forces, and David G. Burnet, first provisional president of the Republic of Texas, are other great Texas historical names that show up in the collection, their papers authentic and unpublished as far as can be determined.

This collection, entitled the Milam-McKinney collection, was given the Museum by Houston Endowment, a foundation established by Mr. and Mrs. Jesse H. Jones, which bought them from R. A. Milam, Jr., of 8044 Leonore Street. Mr. Milam inherited them from his aunt, the late Miss Laura E. Milam.

The letters in the collection yield bright insights into Texas history from 1809 through 1870, with the bulk of them dated from 1820 through 1840, considered the most formative years of the Anglo-American era of Texas history.

The late Miss Milam was a teacher in Houston schools for many years while she lived at 713 Medina. She was the great grandchild of Jefferson Milam, nephew of Ben Milam, and Eliza McKinney, daughter of Collin McKinney.

Colonel Milam, while a member of Stephen F. Austin's forces at Goliad and Gonzales, was put in charge of scouts near San Antonio. During a skirmish he was killed by a rifle ball December 7, 1835.

Most of the papers in the collection are letters, and their messages were carried by horsemen traveling slowly through the country in the turbulent times.

For instance, B. Music, 11 days after Milam was killed, wrote a letter from Nacogdoches, telling of Colonel Milam's capturing half of San Antonio. The note was to Earl Stanley Williams, near Elams Prairie, Red River, in care of Jo McKinney.

Other historical figures represented in the heretofore unpublished material include the transcript of a draft from Sam Houston, commander-in-chief of the Texas forces, who wrote from the Sabine area where in July, 1836, he was recovering from his San Jacinto Battle wounds.

Apparently it was a transcript dictated to a secretary. It was an appeal to the Red River country to send more aid to the Texas patriots. The message closed with the challenge "The man does not deserve liberty who will not defend it. Repair to the camps immediately. Let no excuse detain you." The message also quieted fears of Indian unrest against the Red River country.

Possibly the same messenger carried an appeal from David G. Burnet, president of the Republic of Texas. This paper is undated, but it carries Burnet's signature. It reflects the turmoil and unrest in the frontier state of that early day, apparently just prior to the Battle of San Jacinto.

Burnet's message:

"To the citizens of Texas residing in the municipality of Red River.

"Fellow citizens:

"The enemy is advancing upon our borders, their hands still warm with the blood of our gallant brothers, slaughtered at the Alamo.

"In the name of Texas, I exhort you, citizens of Red River, to repair with alacrity to the field and to chastise the audacity of the invader . . . Your all is at stake, your wives, your children; all that is dear and sacred to free men summon you to the field . . . Let none prove recreant, and all will prosper. The enemy know and dread your powers."

FIRST IN NEW ELEVATOR—The first passengers in the fast, new elevator at the San Jacinto Monument were four tourists from Iowa. J. Q. Adams, elevator operator, left, is shown accepting tickets from the visitors, Mrs. W. A. Kortum, Anton Schroeder, Mrs. Schroeder and Mr. Kortum. The Kortums are from Stanwood, Iowa, and the Schroeders from Tipton, Iowa. Mrs. Kortum and Mrs. Schroeder are sisters. None of the group had ever visited Texas before.

San Jacinto Monument Given Fast Elevator

H. Chr., 2/7/54

Remember how time dragged on a ride in the San Jacinto Monument elevator?

No more slow trips. A new high speed elevator went into operation Saturday.

A $43,000 gift from Mr. and Mrs. Jesse H. Jones made this possible.

Now passengers can travel to the top of the 570-foot monument more than twice as fast as before. The new one has a speed of 800 feet per minute as compared to the old elevator's 300 feet a minute.

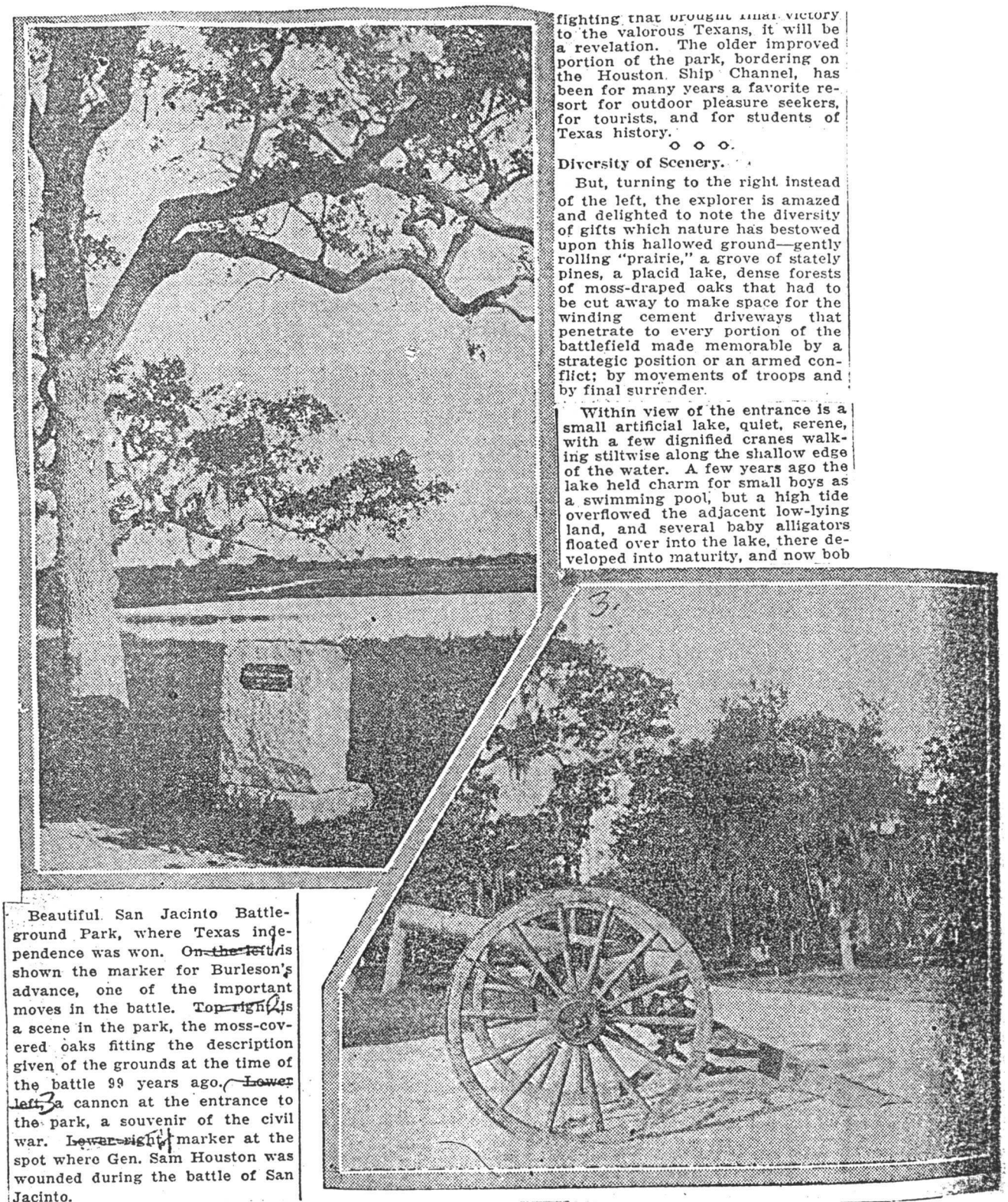
This means you can ride to the top in 40 seconds. On the old elevator the best possible time was 1 minute and 54 seconds.

When the monument was built, it was believed the speed of the elevator installed would be sufficient.

But it soon developed that it was much too slow to take care of the demands made upon it.

Installation of the new elevator required about three months, said a spokesman in the office of A. C. Finn, architect for the project.

"We're not through yet," the spokesman said. "We have a few more details to finish. But the elevator was put in operation Saturday to take care of the Fat Stock Show and Rodeo crowds visiting the Monument."



Beautiful San Jacinto Battleground Park, where Texas independence was won. ~~On the left~~ is shown the marker for Burleson's advance, one of the important moves in the battle. ~~Top right~~ is a scene in the park, the moss-covered oaks fitting the description given of the grounds at the time of the battle 99 years ago. ~~Lower left~~ 3 a cannon at the entrance to the park, a souvenir of the civil war. ~~Lower right~~ 4 marker at the spot where Gen. Sam Houston was wounded during the battle of San Jacinto.

Newly Improved Section Of San Jacinto Battleground Is Revelation to Visitors

BY FRANCES POINDEXTER.

It is doubtful whether any great proportion of Texans realize the full extent of San Jacinto Battleground Park, set apart and maintained by the state, but as Texas approaches its century mark this historic shrine is receiving more and more attention, both personal and official. Several organizations, notably the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and the Masonic order, are planning the erection of suitable memorials to perpetuate the history of that brief but momentous battle, fought 99 years ago next April 21.

In the comparatively recent improvement and landscaping of the park to the right of the state highway leading from Houston to the battleground, extraordinary natural beauties were developed. To those who have not yet explored this section, the scene of the actual fighting that brought final victory to the valorous Texans, it will be a revelation. The older improved portion of the park, bordering on the Houston Ship Channel, has been for many years a favorite resort for outdoor pleasure seekers, for tourists, and for students of Texas history.

o o o.

Diversity of Scenery.

But, turning to the right instead of the left, the explorer is amazed and delighted to note the diversity of gifts which nature has bestowed upon this hallowed ground—gently rolling "prairie," a grove of stately pines, a placid lake, dense forests of moss-draped oaks that had to be cut away to make space for the winding cement driveways that penetrate to every portion of the battlefield made memorable by a strategic position or an armed conflict; by movements of troops and by final surrender.

Within view of the entrance is a small artificial lake, quiet, serene, with a few dignified cranes walking stiltwise along the shallow edge of the water. A few years ago the lake held charm for small boys as a swimming pool, but a high tide overflowed the adjacent low-lying land, and several baby alligators floated over into the lake, there developed into maturity, and now bob up occasionally to wink in a sinister way at any youngster who threatens to invade their domicile. In the hunting season the banging of shotguns and the whirr of startled geese is a frequent sound, as clouds of these gullible birds rise in sudden alarm from their projected tete-a-tetes with the decoys floating so alluringly on the bosom of the lake. Along the edge grow Texas wildflowers—water lilies, cat-tails, Indian blanket—a myriad of thirsty blossoms. At the extreme east end of the park is Peggys Lake, almost hidden by a thicket of oak trees—a natural body of water named for a daughter of Arthur McCormick, a pioneer landowner.

o o o

Moss-Draped Oaks.

Over a knoll to the right may be seen from the entrance a grove of

shade trees, cool, inviting. Then, over miles of delightfully smooth cement driveways, branching out and winding about through acres of what some histories call "prairie," a thrill of surprise is experienced in penetrating a dense forest of live oak trees, heavy with Spanish moss, a fit shelter for lurking enemies. It is not hard to visualize in such a setting the guerilla warfare, the ambuscades, the primitive methods of early conflicts. Now the little woods animals are the only creatures in hiding—the elusive "possum," much sought after by certain folk as the foundation for a dinner of "possum an' taters;" a mother raccoon who may have chosen this secluded spot for her family home. In the latter case an opportunity may be had for acquiring a pair of baby coons, interesting pets and easily domesticated. Within the dense shade of the moss-draped oaks are other of nature's children, of course, and their small sounds mingled with the twitter of birds have replaced the noise of battle and the shrieks of carnage that once resounded in this very spot.

Not many months ago thousands of sheep roamed the newly cleared portion of San Jacinto Battleground—automatic lawn mowers, they were intended to be. They added a pastoral touch to an already picturesque landscape, but this arrangement seems to have hd its disadvantages and was discontinued.

o o o

Inscriptions on Boulders.

In the landscaping of the newer portion of the park great care was exercised in order to make all the granite boulders accessible from the driveways, so that their inscriptions might easily be read. The first of these, visible from the gate, bears the words: "Hockley's Advance Infantry, April 21, 1836."

Going from one to another of these markers it is not hard to reconstruct the struggle. On a rough-hewn block is read: "Cavalry Skirmish Under Sherman, Day Before Battle." At some distance, "Santa Anna's Camp;" not far away, "Mexican Position, April 20, 1836;" then, "Mexican Breastworks;" "Mexican Cannon." Changing our location, going from place to place, we see "Sherman's Advance, Left Wing;" "Burleson's Advance Infantry;" "Millard's Advance Infantry;" all dated April 21, 1836.

Reaching far back, almost to the park's edge, and at a little distance from the highway, may be seen, "Almonte Captured—Greatest Carnage of Battle Occurred." It is one of the spots where imaginative pilgrims pause and attempt to visualize the fierce fighting that once took place in these now peaceful surroundings, but in what evidently was a strategic point for the struggle.

Turning again toward the park entrance, there will be observed close to the driveway a massive marker bearing the inscription:

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Great Oak Is Gone.

"Houston Wounded and Horse Killed Under Him During Battle." The great moss-draped oak tree under which General Houston lay when Santa Anna was brought to him has disappeared, but the great stone marks the historic ground. It is not known whether the famous oak was destroyed by lightning or by other action of the elements, but it has gone.

Conspicuously placed at the branching of the main driveway is a time-worn cannon. The natural inference of the observer is that it had a part in the battle, but the ancient implement of war has no connection with the fight for Texas independence. It is a relic of the war between the states, and has more scenic than historic value. However, the Texans did have a pair of cannon at the battle of San Jacinto. They were known as the "Twin Sisters" and originally were presented to the embryo Republic of Texas by the city of Cincinnati. After Texas won her independence they were taken to Austin, according to the extension department of the University of Texas, and still later they were taken to Baton Rouge. For a long period they were lost, but finally were recovered and presented by Louisiana to the state of Texas. In 1863, it is stated, they were in a camp at or near Austin. During more recent years they again were lost sight of and "search has been made for them all over the country."

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Clue to Cannon Found.

A clue has been found in the form of a brass tablet, it is related in a letter received from **Mrs. T. R. Knox of Uvalde, who** obtained the information in response to an inquiry from the writer, Dr. T. R. Knox, a Son of the Texas Revolution, is an acknowledged authority on matters of historic interest. The record reads:

"A brass tablet taken from one of the 'Twin Sisters' cannon used at San Jacinto April 21, 1836, in the battle against Santa Anna, and for which a countrywide search has been under way for years, is now in the office of the governor of Texas. It will be used as a clue, in the hope that it will result in the location of the gun from which it was taken.

"The plate was sent to the governor's office by H. H. Norton of Keuka Park, New York. The letter accompanying it read: 'Recently I purchased a piece of antique furniture at a second-hand store. In a drawer I found the enclosed tablet, which I am returning to the State of Texas. Where it came from or how it got to this part of the country I do not know. The dealer did not know anything about it.'

"The inscription on the tablet reads: 'This gun was used with terrible effect at the battle of San Jacinto. Presented to the State of Texas by the State of Louisiana March 4, 1861. Committee of presentation: Henry W. Allen, Charles A. Bausle, William G. Austin.'"

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Being Dressed Up.

Already the park is beginning to dress up a bit for a possible birthday party on April 21. In the newer portion freshly painted signs were noted, bearing the information, "State Park, Patrolled by State Officers—Gates Locked at Dark." Superintendent Floyd may be seen making frequent tours of the grounds, supervising, giving information. The number of visitors to the park is increasing steadily, according to Mr. Floyd and judging from the many groups of people who lingered about the massive boulders as they read of the valorous and victorious battle.

Quoting from a letter written by Director W. L. Evans of the San Jacinto Memorial Association of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic, addressed to Miss Jane Caradine, principal of the Allen Elementary School, and to other educators. "It was the battle of San Jacinto that won for us the independence of Texas and helped to round out the grand, romantic history of Texas. The Alamo, Goliad, and all the other sacred shrines were saved from being lost tragedies by the victory won at San Jacinto."

On the pages of history appear the names of Gonzales, Brenham, Nacogdoches, Velasco, Matagorda, Columbus—but these three shrines stand out from all the rest: The Alamo, Goliad, San Jacinto. And now, on the eve of its centenary, all roads lead to the broad, beautiful acres of San Jacinto Battleground Park.

DEDICATED—

To the Heroes of San Jacinto

SAN JACINTO

ERECTED A.D. 1936

THIS CORNER STONE LEVELED
BY THE HONORABLE
JESSE HOLMAN JONES
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
JOHN NANCE GARNER
VICE PRESIDENT
JAMES V. ALLRED
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
WALTER F. WOODUL
LT. GOVERNOR
COKE R. STEVENSON
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
CLAUDE D. TEER CHAIRMAN
JOHN F. WALLACE HENRY C. MEYER
MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF CONTROL
JOHN V. SINGLETON CHIEF OF CENTENNIAL DIVISION
ERECTED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE STATE OF TEXAS—DEDICATED TO THE HEROES OF THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO WHOSE DEEDS WON FOR TEXAS LIBERTY AND INDEPENDENCE APRIL 21, 1836

"Don't do it," cried members of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas and others when these inscriptions for the cornerstone of the million-dollar San Jacinto memorial became public. Names of state officials and others overshadow the brief tribute to the heroes of San Jacinto, they complain. The State Board of Control refused to change the wording. These reproductions are from the official blueprints for the cornerstone, with the lettering in original proportion.

Tribute Suggested

The Spanish War Veterans, in their resolutions, suggested substitute text and asked that all the names be excluded.

"Erected by the United States of America, the State of Texas: Centennial tribute to the patrotism, sacrific and valor of the men who here fought the battle of San Jacinto under Gen. Sam Houston, April 21, 1836," was the veterans' sugestion.

Change Is Urged

The Harris County Historical Society voted yesterday to send a telegram to the State Board of Control "strongly urging" acceptance of the inscription approved by the San Jacinto State Park Commission, which bears no names.

"The present inscription with all those names on it appears to be against every sentiment for which the monument is to be erected," said Houston Wade.

"It would be a direct insult to the memory of the heroes of the battle of San Jacinto to place such an inscription on the monument.

Other Plan Better

"The Legislature has effected statutes to allow the San Jacinto State Park Commission to manage things relative to improvements. This commission has not even been consulted.

"I propose we join the Sons and Daughters of the Republic in their battle. I think the inscription by the San Jacinto commission will be much better."

"I believe all Houston will join us in our protest," said Mrs. Hearne. "We had only a short notice about the plans for an inscription, and what we have done so far has received very favorable support.

"We tried to work quietly because we didn't want to have a fuss."

"A. C. Finn won't say he wrote the inscription, but I believe he did," said Mrs. Franklin H. Devine. "What right does he have to do such a thing. He's only the architect, and should just have been doing a job."

Urges Proper Wording

"Certainly we must see that a proper inscription is put on that monument," said Mrs. I. B. McFarland.

"I don't believe Jesse Jones knows the inscription has raised a controversy. He is a modest, fine man, and I'm sure he wants things right."

Jesse Ziegler suggested that the names of the Sons and Daughters of the Republic who worked hard to persuade the state to purchase the Battlegrounds more than 50 years ago deserved mention.

When Dr. E. N. Gray, who presided over the meeting, called for a vote on the original motion by Mr. Wade, it carried unanimously.

Saved 50 Lives

"Then swinging his sword he gave the order, 'right about, march,' and with one accord his order was obeyed, and some 50 miserable Mexicans came to shore unhurt and surrendered. I stood close to this scene."

He described the way Santa Anna was brought to camp the next day.

"I followed them to headquarters, where General Houston lay on his blanket under a tree pouring water from a gourd on his wounded ankle, which was wrapped in green moss," he said.

"Saluting the general, a soldier said, 'This man says he is Santa Anna.'

"Wellington of the Day"

"The general in his powerful, sonorus voice said, 'Who are you, sir?'

"Young Lorenzo de Zavalla, son of Vice President Zavalla, sitting at Houston's feet, said in Spanish, 'The general asks who you are.'

"The prisoner with courteous salutation, stepped to the front and replied in Spanish, 'I am General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, president of the Republic of Mexico, and commander-in-chief of the operations against Texas. You, sir, are the Wellington of the day. You have conquered the Napoleon of the West.'"

Captain Mitchell died at San Antonio at the age of 80, in 1897.

LAKE KEMP LARGEST

Lake Kemp in Baylor County is the largest body of water in Texas.

'Texians' Objected to Being 'Texans'

THE torn remnant of a page from an old book bearing a patriot's denunciation of the name "Texan" —has come to light in Houston.

The yellowed paper fragment brought forth a ghost word, a word which men and women once spoke with pride and which now is spoken no more.

The word is, or was "Texian." It was what inhabitants of Texas once called themselves and demanded that they be called. (Some preferred to be called "Texican.")

The jagged piece of a page — a fragment of a fragment—carries a portion of an extract from "an old manuscript, "A Review of Kennedy's History of Texas." No date is given but the manuscript apparently was penned in the early days of the 1840's. The author is unnamed.

All that there is makes just two paraghaphs to chronicle the defense for a cause which was lost and even forgotten:

"The first specific objection we shall allege to his excellent work," the unknown writer said of the book "is founded on the mode by which he prefers to convert our country's appellation into its personal term. He says . . . "Texas and Texan are the correct English appellations of the land and its inhabitants.

"It is an indubitable fact that the inhabitants of Texas, literate and illiterate, have almost universally adopted the term Texian to define their political individuality, and we are not apprised of any rule of language that is violated in doing so. Words are but arbitrary signs at best; and although lexicographers and grammarians have certain established rules for the construction of them in their—"

The rest of the page is missing.

"ARISE, SIR KNIGHT"—Four prominent Texans were initiated into the Knights of San Jacinto Tuesday at memorial services held at the San Jacinto monument. Above, Commander Charles E. Gilbert, Jr., at the microphone, assisted by Judge Paine Lee Bush of Dallas, left, reads the oath to the new knights. They are, in the usual order, Hugh Roy Cullen, Dr. Valin R. Woodward of Arlington, Franklin Williams, a grandson of Gen. Sam Houston, and Charles R. Tips of Dallas. The members knelt and were tapped on the shoulder by a sword, then donned emerald green sashes as a sign of the high honor they had just received.

State News Section

San Jacinto

TEXAS PATRIOT GIVES ACCOUNT OF SAN JACINTO

University's Archives Hold Soldier's Description of Houston's Victory.

AUSTIN, Jan. 27.—(Sp)—Authentic in data and graphic in its description of the battle of San Jacinto is a letter written June 21, 1836, by J. W. Hassell, a Texas patriot, to his father, photostat copies of which were recently obtained for the archives of the University of Texas library.

Hassell served in the Texas Revolution under Capt. R. J. Calder in Company K of the First regiment of Texas Volunteers. At the close of the war, he was given 640 acres of land by the government of Texas as a reward for his service.

The letter relating his experiences at San Jacinto came to the archives as a gift from Mrs. H. J. O'Hair of Coleman, a relative of Hassell. Mrs. O'Hair is a member of the board of regents of the university. She mailed the original of the letter to the university library and allowed photostat copies to be made. The university retained the copies and retained the actual manuscript.

Hassell, after a lengthy discussion of the former engagements of the Texas army, goes into a vivid sketch of the decisive battle as follows:

Story of the Conflict.

"On the twenty-first of April they (meaning the Mexicans) received a reinforcement which augmented their number to about 1500 strong. Our number was about 800. We were encamped within half a mile of each other in plain view. Our officers determined to give them a battle at 4 o'clock in the evening. Accordingly, at the above stated time the drum beat a general parade which was cheering to every man. We then marched up with 763 men and formed the line of battle within 200 yards of the enemy, where they stood in good order to receive us. We then marched up within good rifle shot, our men and officers pleasant and cool and as brave as lions. Firing then commenced from both sides. Our colonel then ordered Yankee Doodle played and beat in double quick time and we were commanded to charge, and it appeared to me that we were among them in an instant and it would have done your heart good to have seen them fall. Our cannons, our muskets and our rifles and pistols played, it appeared to me, the most delightful tune that ever I heard since the world commenced. I had a first rate rifle and about this time I was using her, sir, with all my might. She ran about 40 to the pound and shot first rate. I took notice to some of the big yellow bullies. When Betsy would bore a hole in them, the blood would gush out as large as a cornstalk. One big fellow, I remember, I shot in the neck and it appeared to me that it had nearly cut his head off. . . . It seemed to do me more good at that time to see them shot or a bayonet run through them than anything that I have ever yet seen—and it appeared to be the prevailing sentiment. When we got so near them as to shake hands with them, they could not bear that. They appeared rather bashful at such a meeting as that and turned their backs on us. They . . . beat their way off. About that time we were slaying them like cornstalks. This was an open field fight.

Santa Anna a Prisoner.

"We gained complete victory over them in about 16 minutes. We took 700 prisoners, a large number of which were wounded. A large number of the wounds proved mortal. We took all the officers except one lieutenant-colonel and one captain, who made their escape. . . . We have the great Santa Anna now a prisoner with three other of his generals with officers to the amount of about 30. There were many officers killed. We had six killed and two died from their wounds; we had about 25 wounded. The people are determined to kill Santa Anna and, I expect, with all his principal officers.

"I told you the Mexicans marched in three divisions. We defeated Santa Anna's division and an armistice was entered into. The Mexican army then marched away to Matamoros, and our wise men were trying to make a treaty with Santa Anna. They effected it as they thought, and put him on board vessel to send him. But the people (Texans) would not stand for it. They brought him back.

"We got the news on the nineteenth instant that the same army was retracing their steps back to Texas and swearing to exterminate every American to the Sabine river or never see Mexico again. Their number is 10,000. The people (of Texas) are ordered to turn out in mass and repair to the seat of war with all possible haste."

Due to the time at which it was written, the letter ended without giving the final results of the battle.